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BULLETIN OF THE  
*American Iris Society*

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**THE BULLETIN  
OF THE  
AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY**  
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**Spring 1979**

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**Editor-in-Chief:** Ann Branch Dasch, 4831 Deer Park Rd., Owings Mills, MD 21117 Tel. (301) 922-3971

**Associate Editors:** Philip Edinger, P.O. Box 637, Cloverdale, CA 95425  
Patricia McCallum, 2611 Southlawn Dr., St. Paul, MN 55109

**Advertising Editor:** Kay Nelson, P.O. Box 37613, Omaha, NB 68137  
Tel. (402) 895-9112

**Managing Editor:** Phillip Williams, P.O. Box 41, Eagleville, TN 37060

**Editorial Committee:** Ben R. Hager, Julius Wadekamper, W. George Waters,  
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— Communications concerning the business matters of the Society should be addressed to **Mrs. R. V. Ramsey**, 6518 Beachy Ave., Wichita, KS 67206.

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*Registrations:* Keith Keppel, P.O. Box 8173, Stockton, CA 95208. Send all registration applications and \$5.00, payable to AIS, to registrar Kay Nelson, P.O. Box 37613, Omaha, NE 68137

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**PHOTO AND ART CREDITS:** Schreiner's-Cover; Peter Maynard-p 4; Leroy Davidson-pp 10, 11; Betty Wood-pp 65, 66; Currier McEwen-p 76

**Cover Photograph:** *POST TIME (Schreiner 1971), an opulent smooth red tall bearded iris that was awarded an Honorable Mention in 1972 and the Award of Merit in 1974.*

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Beginning with this issue of The Bulletin, Ann Branch Dasch launches her career as our Editor. Already Ann is known to many of us as a multitalented lady and is a professional journalist. We are looking forward to the continuation of a high quality publication. Our new Editor is in the process of testing several printers. Cost, quality and a timely Bulletin are top priorities.

Our immediate past Editor, Philip Edinger, has earned the gratitude of us all in the past several years as Bulletin Editor. Phil, too, is a professional journalist and his dedication to his work as Editor was readily apparent in each issue. Thank you, Phil, for seeing us through one of the most difficult periods of the Society.

For many years, The British Iris Society has awarded a Dykes Medal to an American hybridizer. At the November Board Meeting in Grand Rapids, the Directors voted to reciprocate by awarding the AIS Hybridizer's Medal to a British hybridizer. The hybridizers selected by the BIS were a husband and wife team, Leonard and Marjorie Brummitt. The Brummitts are well known to many Americans and many have visited their garden. Congratulations, Leonard and Marjorie! (Editor's note — see letter from the Brummitts below)

As this is being written, we are anticipating another great Convention in Huntsville, Alabama. We are looking forward to this occasion when we will see many irises of all types in gardens tended by talented, enthusiastic irisarians. Add to this a generous helping of Southern Hospitality and one has the recipe for a perfect Convention. See you there!

Leon Wolford



## REPLY FROM THE BRUMMITTS IN ENGLAND

Dear Mr. Wolford,

Many thanks for your letter of 4th, and for your kind congratulations on the award or the AIS Hybridizer's Medal.

I need hardly say how very pleased we are at the news that we have been so honoured. The Hybridizer's Medal is a very high award, which we had no thought of ever seeing!

We have both been very much involved with irises of all types since the year 1945, and always the driving force has been the interest in hybridizing.

Whilst I have dealt with the TB and SDB, Marjorie has interested herself in the Pacific Coast, Sibericas, and other apogons.

It is a wonderful hobby which has given a great deal of pleasure to us and also to visitors. Many growers from the States have been to this garden.

For many years we have maintained a half-acre of irises in addition to the home garden, but alas with advancing age we are having to reduce our activities now.

We hope to hear from Mrs. Ramsey before long!



Yours sincerely,  
L. W. Brummitt

# HOW A WINNER GROWS

## THE BRIDE'S HALO STORY

The 1978 Dykes Memorial Medalist was BRIDE'S HALO, hybridized by Dr. H. C. Mohr of Lexington, Kentucky. The saga of its climb to stardom, presented here, is a classic success story with dramatic overtones.

The first surprise is that BRIDE'S HALO was the first iris registered and introduced by its hybridizer. One logically assumes that the iris designated as the best of the year by AIS judges will be the result of complicated years of successful commercial hybridizing. This has not always been the case, but with a glance at the list of past winners, one sees many prominent names. Dr. Mohr achieved this epitome of hybridizing success on his first official attempt.

BRIDE'S HALO was registered in 1971. Originally Seedling 68-14-2, it was described as a 36" tall bearded white self, bordered with a 1/8" band of yellow, heavily ruffled, lightly laced and complemented by a yellow beard. Its lineage refutes a "rags to riches" story. RAINBOW GOLD x DENVER MINT weds a prominent pair of iris parents.

Ron Mullin (*AIS BULLETIN* #231, Fall 1978, pp. 40-42) described recent popular descendants of DENVER MINT, including such yellow and white varieties as GOLD TRIMMINGS, OLD FLAME, JOYCE TERRY, GOLD RING and PONDEROSA, and traces them back to GLITTERING AMBER. He stated, "There is usually something in the background of all the irises we like that provides them with that little something extra that gives them appeal."

BRIDE'S HALO was introduced in 1973, the same year that it was guested at the AIS convention in Philadelphia. Dr. Mohr had planned to attend and see his first iris in commerce blooming in a display garden, but was unable to do so. Enough AIS judges saw it, however, for it to be voted a High Commendation award.

In correspondence with the editor, Dr. Mohr writes, "This encouraged me to send it to Roanoke (1974 AIS Convention site), where it performed as well as I have seen it do *anywhere*, *on a one year clump* in the garden of Arthur and Mary Davis. This single clump attracted much attention and helped in BH being the top vote-getter for an Honorable Mention for 1974." The iris was also a runner-up for the Cook Cup, awarded to the best guest iris from out of the hosting region, by the votes of those attending the convention.

That H. M. award, garnered easily the first year the variety was eligible, was a portent of the future. Its success at this point was due, probably, to votes from judges who had viewed it in other areas, also. Dr. Mohr reports that it had been sold to growers in "widely separated locations from California to the east coast and reports of good performance were coming in from everywhere."

In the 1975 Judges' Choice balloting, BH received the third highest number of votes. In 1976, it was eligible for the Award of Merit competition and swept to the top as the number one vote-getter.

Thus far, with the exception of the convention balloting, the iris had been voted its triumphs by accredited AIS judges. Its first recorded notice by the general world of iris fanciers across the nation, was when it appeared on the 1975 Popularity Poll. All AIS members are entitled to vote in this poll, and there is no

limit to the number of times an iris may appear; consequently, two-year-old BRIDE'S HALO was competing with classic, long-popular irises in commerce for many years, including Dykes Medalists. Results show BH as number 25.

The next year, it had climbed to number 16. On the 1977, Popularity Poll, BRIDE'S HALO was number 5 and by 1978, public endorsement placed it number 3, surpassed only by STEPPING OUT and KILT LILT.

In addition, BRIDE'S HALO received the President's Cup, voted to the best variety by a hybridizer from the hosting region at the 1977 AIS Convention in Memphis. Otherwise, 1977 was a quiet year for BH. The iris was in the mandatory waiting period before the next stage of eligibility on the Awards Ballot; the next competition was its greatest, the Dykes Medal category.

The white and yellow iris appeared on the 1978 list of Dykes contenders, listed alphabetically among the 93 irises eligible, part of a 16-page ballot mailed to over a thousand judges. In the Dykes competition, each candidate must have won the AM, Knowlton, Sass or Cook-Douglas Medals, or an award equivalent to the Award of Merit. Beardless and bearded of all types who achieved these ranks were now pitted against each other.

In order to win this battle of champions, a contender must receive 15% of the votes cast by judges who chose to vote in the category. Tension began to build as the ballots arrived. The Awards Committee made periodic checks of enthusiastically early returns to ascertain the trends and the likelihood of a run-off ballot being required. Other statistics, such as the early receipt of ballots per region were also kept. Periodic results appear below. Please note that the percentages of judges refers to the percentage who *could* vote; honorary and senior judges are not required to vote. On the Dykes chart, the numbers shown are only for the leading contenders; not all ballots contained a vote in the category, and, of the 93 eligible varieties, 28 received no votes at all. Voting timetables were kept on all major awards.

PERCENTAGE OF 1978 AWARDS BALLOTS RETURNED EARLY PER REGION TIMETABLE

Reg.	June 13	June 30	July 8	Reg.	June 13	June 30	July 8
1	7.3	29.2	36.5	14	27.	42.8	69.8
2	9.4	25.	53.1	15	19.	41.3	58.6
3	10.	36.6	76.6	16	0	0	44.4
4	12.1	21.2	63.6	17	30.1	45.2	60.3
5	34.6	42.3	53.8	18	27.6	43.4	75.6
6	4.3	22.8	51.4	19	0	20.	70.
7	15.2	50.	74.7	20	4.2	37.5	62.5
8	0	26.4	67.0	21	2.4	33.3	64.2
9	5.7	25.7	57.1	22	36.7	55.	78.3
10	23.0	33.3	46.1	23	26.7	36.3	66.6
11	4.8	38.	47.6	24	11.6	25.5	53.4
12	3.7	3.7	59.2	Over Seas	25.	35.	60.
13	16.3	39.5	58.1				

## LEADERS ON EARLY DYKES MEDAL RETURNS

Variety	June 13	June 30	July 8
Bride's Halo	19	40	78
Going My Way	19	32	45
Mary Frances	19	37	53
Lemon Mist	13	23	44

The front-runners were obvious from the beginning: BRIDE'S HALO, GOING MY WAY, MARY FRANCES and LEMON MIST, all tall bearded varieties. Earliest results were a three-way tie. At that point, June 13, regions with more than 25% of the ballots returned included these states: South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Northern California, Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and New Mexico.

June 30 saw leaps in the number of returns from north eastern, north central, north western and random other areas. BH began to pull ahead. By July 8, all regions' returns were flowing in smoothly, just ahead of the anticipated last-minute deluge from the mailbox.

At this point, BRIDE'S HALO had assumed a commanding lead: 35% of the votes cast. Final results a few days later, however, were less definitive. The Awards Committee triple-checked the ballots using differing systems and the results were invariable. BH had 14.50%; MARY FRANCES, 9.39%; GOING MY WAY, 8.96% and LEMON MIST, 6.97% of the Dykes votes.

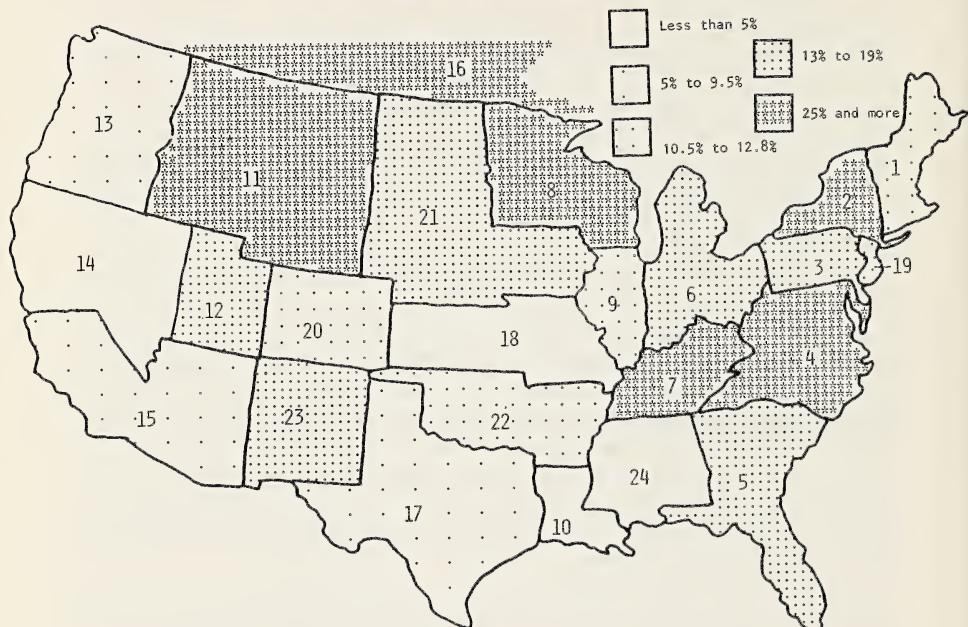
Rules demand that a winner have 15%; otherwise, a supplementary ballot may be ordered by the Board of Directors. The Awards Committee telephoned President Wolford to report the results and was instructed to poll the Board members immediately by mail to see if they wished a supplementary ballot issued. This was done. The Board was not, of course, told which irises were involved. They voted for the run-off ballot of all irises having 5% or more of the votes, plus a "no award" category.

This was mailed to judges with the Judges' Choice ballot and other results of the Awards Ballot. Throughout the process, utmost security was observed and utmost tension built. Finally, when the supplementary ballots were returned and tabulated, BRIDE'S HALO triumphed with 31.5% of the votes cast.

It has been stated that in order to merit the Dykes Medal, an iris must be able to grow well in many parts of the nation, under many climatic and cultural conditions. Obviously, an iris must impress a sizable number of judges with its quality in order to receive enough votes to win. The accompanying map shows the distribution of support for BH on the first ballot.

Dr. Mohr notes that his variety probably does well in most regions because both of its parents were "quite widely adapted." The map seems to indicate that its greatest popularity is in middle Atlantic coast and northern states. Overall, a "donut" pattern circles Regions 18, with Regions 14, 10, and 24 also lower in the percentage of votes for BH.

PERCENTAGES OF AIS JUDGES IN EACH REGION VOTING FOR BRIDE'S HALO  
FOR THE DYKES MEDAL ON THE 1978 AWARDS BALLOT



The hybridizer commented also, "I have observed that BH appears to require a somewhat higher fertility level than average, so we give it about 20% more fertilizer on old ground. It naturally does splendidly on new ground."

BRIDE'S HALO has reached the pinnacle of success in 5 years. Good performance as a guest iris at conventions in Philadelphia, Roanoke and Memphis, wide distribution, quality that impresses many judges and growing popularity with the general membership, as well as judges, have been steps on the ladder to the championship.

---

### THE NAME GAME

Bob Sobek of Westford, Massachusetts, who hybridized the iris DONKEY SERANADE states that he named it for the music of the same name, but also the animal. He admits that he isn't an expert on donkeys, but the iris' grey and brown colors seemed appropriate; "the name couldn't be misleading in any event."

FILLER TIDBITS are from the 1978 REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS booklet, published Jan. 1979 by the AIS, compiled by Kathleen Kay Nelson, assisted by Keith Keppel. This handy annual publication is a 69-page listing of the irises and their hybridizers for the year and is available from the AIS Librarian, Mrs. Dorothy Howard, 226 E. 20th St., Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119 at \$3.50, postpaid.

# Species Gallery

## THE "PAIRED SPECIES" OF IRISES

*Roy Davidson, Washington*

The phenomenon of pairs of related species of irises may have been first noticed by W. R. Dykes. He noted among European dwarf pogons *Iris pumila* and *I. chamaeiris*, distinct in many ways yet much confused in cultivation.

Similarly, in the Old World are to be found *I. sibirica* and *I. sanguinea*; in the Orient, *I. laevigata* and *I. ensata* (*haempsferi*); and among the New World species, those two great blue flags, *I. versicolor* and *I. virginica*, plus the delightful little pair, *I. cristata* and *I. lacustris*.

### THE EASTERN AMERICA CRESTED IRISES

The two small crested irises of eastern North America are frequently confused in gardens because their appearance, except for size, is very much alike. When we learn the small details by which they may be distinguished, however, they seem less similar.

Respecting *I. lacustris* as a good species in its own right for a distinct chromosome structure, we still need to learn to recognize it on sight. Separation on the basis of shape of its segments has proven to be misleading. It is likely that much of the material grown by this label with the misapprehension that it is the true "blue iris of the lakes" is, in reality, but poorer, smaller and paler *I. cristata*.

*Iris cristata* is not only larger in all its parts, averaging about twice the size of *I. lacustris*, it is also the more variable of the two. Its distribution is centered in the Appalachians and the Ozarks, and the flower color may run from white and near-white through the pastel tints of orchid, lilac, lavender and blue to fuller expressions of purple to violet.

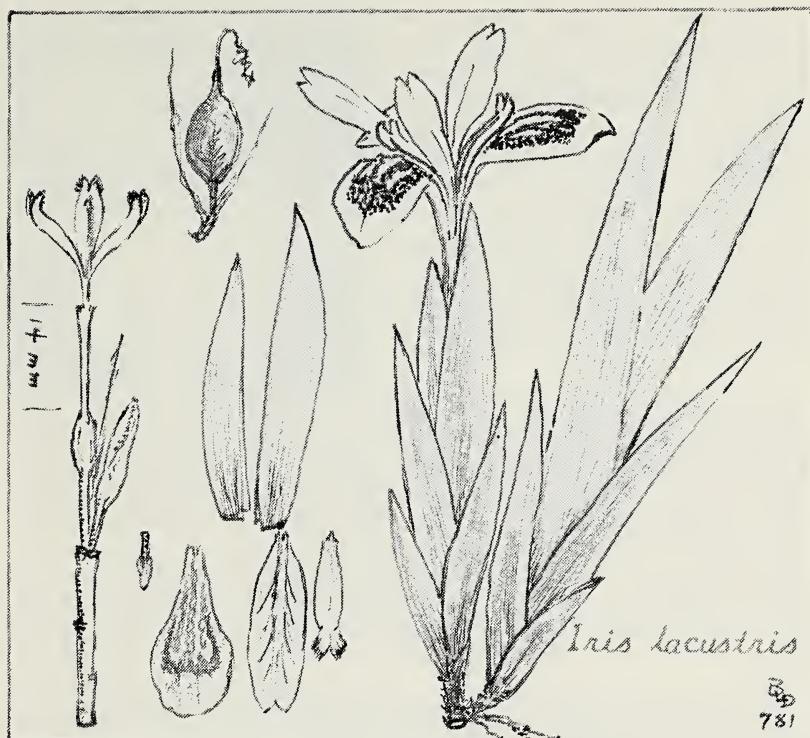
Except in the white, *I. cristata* always has a characteristic pattern of the falls: a little "squared-off" intensity of pigment surrounding the small apron-like patch, with its one to three little squiggly, raised coxcomb-like crests and a certain golden penciling. Those of the Ozarks are not markedly different except for a tendency to a smaller and paler average.

### BLUE IRIS OF THE LAKES

*Iris lacustris* is found on the limestone rocks and gravels in association with the northern coniferous forests about the upper Great Lakes. It is almost non-variable, a pretty azure color and, occasionally, white. All, except the white ones, bear a similar pattern on the falls, with comparable crests and golden markings.

The unmistakable botanical distinction between the two is the relative length of the perianth tube, quite a usual and reliable criterion in these pairs of related irises. In *I. cristata*, the distance between the top of the rhizome and the ovary is far less than the length of this tube separating the ovary and the floral parts above.





*Iris cristata* and *Iris lacustris*  
Drawings are approximately life-size

*Iris cristata* Solander\* “Crested Dwarf Iris”

Tube of the perianth 2 inches or over, much longer than segments of the perianth and exceeding the spathe valves. (24 chromosomes)

*Iris lacustris* Nuttall “Lake Dwarf Iris”

Tube of perianth only 1/2 to 3/4 inch long, rather shorter than the perianth segments as well as the spathe valves. (42 chromosomes)

\*Solander is responsible for *I. cristata*, although it is often credited to Aiton who published it in *Hortus Kewensis*.

In *I. lacustris*, the opposite ratio pertains. It is seen that the capsule of the latter will be found atop a short stalk and on a true stem, whereas that of *I. cristata* sits almost on the rhizome at ground level. These proportions are frequently misinterpreted, probably due to the overall size differences of the two.

Seeds of both are much alike, both having a peculiar development of the raphe (ovule seam – ed.), which appears as a sort of gelatinous little spring which seems to assist in the discharging of the capsule and dispersal of its seeds. On exposure to atmosphere, it dries and shrivels.

### THE PAIR IN CULTIVATION

It is often said that these two irises will not be grown in the same garden easily. This probably stems from the record that the native soils supporting *I. cristata* are minimacid (pH 6 – 6.9), while those on which *I. lacustris* is found are circumneutral (pH 7.1 – 8).

It has been demonstrated, however, that both species are about equally tolerant of a variety of soils as long as they are cool and loose with humus, well-drained but ever-moist and never boggy. Their soft leaves are favored by slugs and snails, which must be controlled. In dapple-shaded positions away from the parching afternoon sun, they will romp away on short stolons which root down to form broad-spreading colonies.

There was a report of a hybrid between the two, made in British Columbia and shown in England in 1955. This is not an impossibility, although we now know that they should not be interfertile. There is also the record of a cross of *I. lacustris* x *I. gracilipes*, the related Japanese species, bred and shown in England in 1965.

Some years ago, a plant sent out as OLIVER TWIST was purported to have been raised from the mating of *I. tectorum* x *I. cristata*. To some observers, it seemed only an inferior example of Roof Iris (*I. tectorum*). In view of the fact that seedlings were grown from a back-cross to *I. tectorum album*, at least some of the plants sent out by that name were probably only that.

Both blue and white *I. lacustris* are to be found occasionally in cultivation. Of the variable *I. cristata*, there have been a number of selected clones, most of them found as wild plants.

There is at least one excellent vigorous "Alba" among a number recorded. PEARL WHITE was one of those, although it might have been tinted or semi-albino. CRESTED IVORY is self-described. Of the pallid ones, "McDonald" (which originated as a nursery seedling in Oregon) has the faint typical pattern, and "Millard" sounds to have been similar, as does "Whisper" (lovely name for a pale lilac); "Skylands" was apparently a shade darker.

CRESTED FAIRY was said to be bicolored and "Gold Crest" was mid-lavender with a greater amount of yellow lines. Of them all, "Abbeys Violet" seems to be the darkest and of true violet hue. Many another good form is likely grown without having a name given. For example, a good "pink" and a clear azure were once found in eastern Tennessee and possibly still grow in some gardens.

These little woodland irises belong to that very long list of plants shared between eastern Asia and eastern North America, as well as to a far shorter list with western American representation. As such, they are members of the Evansia group of irises, named for the man who first brought the Asiatics to western horticulture. The western American *I. tenuis* is narrowly indigenous in western Oregon.



## Maybe You Can Do It In California But . . .

Ben R. Hager, Stockton, California

*BEVERLY SILLS*, a pink TB hybridized by the author of the article, was registered in '78 and introduced by Melrose Gardens in '79. It is probably safe to assume that this bloom was on a one-year plant . . . .

Inquiries have come from several sources since the 1978 AIS Convention in northern California wanting information about our somewhat unique cultural procedure of transplanting our irises annually. In writing about it for a ubiquitous audience, I expect the immediate and obvious reaction, "Oh, you can do that in California, but . . . ." So, since this subject will not necessarily be of interest to the majority of readers, I will attempt to present more of a comparative study based on our own experience and the assistance of others, and include information that we have gleaned about the iris plant that is more visible in this type of culture and less obvious in culture that is restricted by more severe environments.

The objective of annual transplanting in this part of the world is to get peak quality bloom on properly handled first year plants but reduced quality on second and third year clumps. This applies only to the tall bearded, intermediate bearded and border bearded irises. Dwarf bearded and beardless irises still give their top quality on two-year-old plantings. With irises in the landscape picture where "show-type" quality is secondary and mass bloom preferred, the older clumps are desirable.

I would think that the annual transplanting method would be successful in any area where peak bloom comes by the middle of May. Within areas where peak bloom is later, the method would become improbable to impossible as seasons are delayed into late May and June.

We did have an embarrassingly good example of the difference in California between one-year planting and two-year clumps in our convention tour garden here at Melrose Gardens. We adhered strictly to the AIS rules (are they "unwritten" or is there a record of such?) that guest iris plantings in convention gardens be on two-year clumps. The embarrassment came not in the amount of bloom or the health and vigor of the plants; that was very satisfactory, if not overdone. What was disappointing was the QUALITY of the BLOOM. Some guests that bloomed the first year (about half did) had shown great promise; in fact, we had ordered them on the spot. On the two-year clumps the next year, some of the same irises showed no desirable traits whatever.

Those of you who got out into the back to our commercial planting probably noticed the difference in the bloom quality there, as compared with the irises in the front display beds. It was from the back fields that we cut bouquets to bring up front for viewing, because the same irises in the display beds on two-year

clumps were not typical of the varieties represented, as we had seen them. I want to emphasize the following statement -- the irises you saw blooming in the back field had been planted the previous NOVEMBER. Yet, those plants produced quality bloom and the two-year clumps did not.

My telepathic abilities are keen enough to read your thoughts at this moment, although I'm sure you would never *voice* those thoughts. I know you are thinking, "That stupid compost-head thinks I can do that!" I DO NOT. But I do think a great deal can be learned about the nature of the iris plant in that situation that can be applied to all iris plantings.

Annual transplanting is successful here because we have a longer growing season (November planting mentioned earlier, for instance). But there are several cultural procedures we must follow to make such a method pay off.

1. We plant on 6" to 8" ridges with 6" to 8" furrows between. This allows for the perfect drainage required for irises to avoid rot. After three years of drought, we had excessive rainfall the year before the convention. Those furrows, even by the arilbreds, stood full of water for days at a time, but almost no rot was observed in the subsequent season because the crown of the rhizome was lifted above the water mark by the planting ridge.

In my opinion, raised beds are not a satisfactory solution to the drainage problem, except where soils remain water-logged through most of the season. The raised bed with some sort of curbing around it is merely raising the existing level of the surrounding topography. The curbing prevents any horizontal run-off, and all drainage must be by seepage downward. Drainage capacity is often accomplished by additions of gritty material and each grain of grit replaces fertile soil, thus lowering the fertility of the bed, or humus is added which facilitates drainage but holds much more moisture around the plant. A tilted surface would give better drainage in the raised bed than either of the other methods.

What looked to be the ideal type of raised bed was exemplified in Bill Simon's garden at the Michigan convention. The soil was piled into hills without edge retainers so that all soil planes sloped *away* from any rhizomes and all surplus water would immediately run off. I can see a possible erosion problem here, but that could be controlled with a loose mulch if necessary. In our more arid climate where irrigation is essential, this hillling might not work because there would not be enough downward absorption (except possibly by the use of drip irrigation systems in smaller gardens); with regular rainfall, this would not be a problem.

The ridge planting method is undoubtedly superior for the best drainage of excess moisture, but there are problems in cold winter areas where mulching is necessary. Both of my correspondents discussing this subject, Bill Simon of Michigan and Mel Leavitt of New Jersey, stress the importance of winter mulching for the production of good bloom quality in their gardens. With the ridging of the planting, problems arise. Enough mulch must be laid down to fill the furrows to a level that will keep the proper depth of the mulch from sliding off the ridge. If mulching materials are available in unlimited quantities -- no problem.

It is the excess "free" moisture collecting immediately around the rhizome that causes the initiation of much of the summer rot problem. With the ridge planting, we forestall such collection of moisture and yet can supply copious amounts of moisture at the root level. Also, this method allows for deeper planting with 1" to 2" of soil covering the top of the rhizome and protecting it from sunburn, another cause of rot where the rhizome is exposed to sunlight.

2. We do fertilize adequately when we plant, with a 6-10-6 plus trace element commercial fertilizer. We fumigate the soil between plantings unless we can leave the soil fallow for a couple of years (or grow other crops on it during that time). This means that we can turn the old plants under, thus furnishing the soil with plenty of humus. Much of this would not be workable in an average garden, but unless old soil is fumigated or new soil brought in, there are problems. For some reason, irises resent being planted in soil that already nurtured a previous crop of iris plants, unless the bed is renewed as mentioned.

Many iris growers have a great fear of fertilizer as a precursor of rot. Growing quality irises cannot be achieved without adequate food supplements. They have ravenous appetites that must be indulged. Logically, it is better to find other methods of avoiding rot than starving the plant.

3. We irrigate plentifully, especially during the underground growth period between bloom and the maturity of the rhizome in early July. In this arid climate, we furnish water to our plants in greater amounts than would naturally be received in areas of highest rainfall averages. We do not produce watery or soft rhizomes because our summer weather is hot and very dry. Nor does this extra water cause a plague of rot, as mentioned before, because the water is in the furrow and does not remain around the rhizome.

We cannot apply over-head irrigation with impunity since the water collects in the leaf bases and, combined with summer heat, causes rot to start on the top of the rhizome, much as it does in areas with regular summer rainfall. Very rarely, we will be visited by a summer storm in August that drops a half inch or so of moisture and then there are problems. Solving such problems is not in my realm of experience.

A short drying off period before digging, or with well-grown rhizomes of tall bearded irises between digging and planting, is definitely beneficial, possibly because it acts as an artificial summer dormancy. After this the rhizome returns eagerly to life. A good, fat rhizome can stay out of the ground for weeks without harm if not exposed to sunlight, too much heat or aphid build up.

4. We do not transplant until the rhizome is fully mature — six to ten weeks after the bloom. Probably 75% of the iris plant's annual development is accomplished in this period right after bloom. (Did you wonder why most commercial iris growers will not ship irises until July?) In this respect, irises are like all other bulbous, rhizomatous or tuberous plants. The buds for the next year are set, the increase growth begun and the nutrient supplies stored. In nature, the iris plant would go into dormancy then for the remainder of the summer. As gardeners wanting the most for our efforts, however, we keep on with good cultural practices, although to a somewhat lessened degree. The increase will continue to grow and will be well along on its journey to maturity by the time winter sets in and all growth stops. Yes, in the central valley of California, our winter temperatures do go down to 20 degrees and the iris plants go completely dormant for the winter. Only in the coastal areas, mostly in southern California, do they tend to grow through the winter months.

The rhizome's ability to store, in the early summer, all the nutrients needed to actually carry it through the next spring's bloom, is interesting and has been demonstrated in our fields many times. Irises that were planted too late to develop fall roots will begin good spring growth, put up perfectly adequate bloom stalks, flower satisfactorily and then fall over. This demonstrates that the rhizome had put out no new roots during the spring growth and yet accomplished its full cycle on stored nutrients alone. In fact, the beginning of spring

root growth very nearly coincides with the bloom stalk growth and not much before. We may consider that the fall cycle of root growth is for one reason only — to act as an anchor for the springtime plant or holding power against heaving where the winter ground freezes.

Remember that the iris plant will need a high level of fertility in the soil during the post-bloom period, and that it takes most fertilizers at least a month to break down into an available form after being worked into the soil, and you should be able to work out the proper time for fertilizer application. Most advice is for pre-bloom application and it is correct advice, but most of us are incorrect in thinking that such applications in any way affect or improve the following bloom, for it is only guaranteeing the amount of bloom for the following year's season. Fall fertilization will probably have some beneficial effect on spring bloom, since it may add, by way of the fall root growth, cumulative nutrients to the previously stored supply. If it is the only effort, however, it is not enough; it will not replace what was missed by early summer neglect. Adequate moisture is needed by the plant in the spring to assist the new rooting activity and to carry the stored nutrients up into the bloom stalk and leaves.

In our local annual transplanting plan, it is essential that we follow these cultural proceedings carefully. Only a good rhizome will perform well on a first year plant. We would not expect complete success from using rhizomes separated from clumps older than two years or from irises shipped in from other areas. If we were to grow convention plantings on one-year clumps, we would, nevertheless, need to have the original rhizome two years in advance and then divide and transplant the next year — as some of the most successful gardens did for the convention this time.

Successful commercial growers from all areas use the annual transplanting method; at most, rhizomes are dug from two-year plantings, which is somewhat less reliable. Generally, these growers are not interested in the quantity of bloom but rather, in the quality of the rhizome. In short season areas where good bloom cannot be expected from first year plants, good plants for shipment *can* be expected and the wise grower will know this. Hybridizers who market their own product should take special note of this, whether they are marketing bearded or beardless irises. If sales for new introductions seem to decline, it would be well to look to the quality of the product (the rhizome), as well as the perfection of the flower that is the objective of the hybridizer's program. A knowledge and ability to grow the plant is as necessary as the knowledge and ability to spread the pollen in the right places. Buyers become very reluctant to pay high prices for inferior rhizomes that may take two to three years to adjust and put out the gorgeous display that they are capable of producing.

Frankly, when western growers hear reports that California irises do not grow well in some eastern and northern gardens, we feel a moment of annoyance, not so much at the statement as at the seeming glee with which such reports are touted. After a moment more of contemplation, we realize that, after all, the report has to be based on a local condition or improper handling, for it is very true that the percentage of affirmative testimonial reports received from the most unlikely places is overwhelming.

But the sum of the whole discussion comes down to one thing: no matter whether your environment demands annual transplanting, growing on two-year clumps for quality bloom or three-year clumps for the floriferousness needed for landscape display, the better the rhizome planted, the better the results will be.

# FOR BEGINNERS ONLY . . .

*Karen Glasgow, Nelson, New Zealand*

*Editor's Note: Karen Glasgow has long edited the New Zealand Iris Society Bulletin and wrote the following article, which appeared in their June 1978 issue, pp. 20-23. In response to requests for basic iris information, we print parts of Mrs. Glasgow's excellent material and thank her for the permission to do so. Please remember that the seasons and climatic direction in New Zealand are exactly the reverse of ours; the iris, however, is still the iris!!*

Someone gave you an iris root. It meant nothing to you. So, "plant it in full sun, in a patch of good dirt," you were told. You followed these instructions, and nothing much seemed to happen. It sat there, this piece of iris — you hadn't yet discovered that 'rhizome' was the word for it — all the rest of the autumn and through the winter. Sometime in August (Ed. — Winter's end in USA corresponds) you noticed that a fan was beginning to take shape, and on a closer look, shoots were beginning to emerge along the sides of the rhizome. "At least it's not dead," you thought. By the beginning of October (Ed. — Spring), a shapely fan reared up from the head of the rhizome and several smaller fans appeared on each side. Then you observed that the centre of the large fan was thickening and slowly a stout stalk emerged with a healthy looking bud developing at its top.

As the days passed, the stem lengthened, and the buds fattened and grew apart. It was all agonisingly slow. For days nothing appeared to happen — and then all at once the sheath parted and a perfectly shaped bud, like a tapering candle-flame, pushed its way out. To your astonishment it was not the purple you had expected, but a rich, lustrous, shining brown. Two days later a glorious flower stood proudly on the stalk, rounded, crisp, silken and glistening. Why had no one told you an iris could be like this? Why had you never noticed such flowers before?

As if in answer to your question, over a garden fence, a day or two later you saw not one stalk with one brown flower atop, but several clumps each with three or more stalks, palest blue, snow white, golden yellow, and most spectacular, a white with a pattern of vivid, dark purple stitching around its petals. You rushed to the telephone and rang your generous friend — "That iris you gave me — it's a glorious brown — and I've seen some others, blue, white, gold — where can I get them?" Finally friend was able to have his say. "Thought you'd like 'GINGERSNAP.' He's handsome isn't he? If you want some more I can give you a few, and I'll let you have a couple of catalogues. I'll drop them in tomorrow." And so it began.

Well, the catalogues come and you are dazed with the array of colours, shapes, attributes, and names — such names some of them are, too. The choice is too wide. However, there are limits to the number of plants you can buy. First the space at your disposal and, thereafter, the extent of your purse. At \$5 apiece, six plants may take quite a slice of what you have to spend on your garden, let alone

irises. There is no need, however, to despair. There are numbers of very desirable irises available at considerably less cost, and it is in this area that you should wisely begin. The price of an iris is not an indication of its quality. Price is dependent on supply and demand. When an iris is brand new and there is a limited supply, it can easily command a high price. A year or two later when the supply has increased, the same iris may sell for only a dollar or two — and it's just as good an iris at \$2 as it was at \$10. (Ed. — Prices may decrease more slowly here on a new introduction at \$25, an "improvement" in its color class, before it is available for \$2.)

If you are lucky enough to have a good commercial garden (Ed. — Or a friendly irisarian's garden) in your area, you need not rely on the catalogue descriptions. You can see for yourself the true color of the flower, as well as observing the branching, the number of buds and the behaviour of the plant in the garden. Is it a vigorous, healthy grower that will produce good increases? The beautiful colours that entice you in the catalogues are not always true, as it is often difficult for the printer to duplicate the actual colour. Blues, blacks and oranges, particularly, do not give a true idea of the colour — and even the descriptions sometimes overdo it.

Another advantage of buying in your own area is that if a plant does well in the display garden, it ought to do as well for you, given the proper care and attention. Conditions in New Zealand vary so much up and down the country that you should bear this in mind when choosing your varieties. It does seem that varieties which do not perform so well in the northern part of the country do better further south, while the further south you go, the possibility of late frosts or even late snowfall needs to be considered. (Ed. — Again note the reversal of direction for us. While there are many climatic differences in the USA also, there are many factors that may enter into a choice of commercial sources.) In the latter case, it would pay to make your choices from the later flowering varieties. Most catalogues indicate whether the plants described are early, medium or late varieties. Again, in some parts of New Zealand strong winds, particularly at iris time, have to be contended with. Here again catalogues help as the height of the flowering stem is usually included so that you can avoid the four foot beauties for something equally lovely but not so tall.

Having said all this, we come down to your actual choice. The first few pages of a catalogue generally have all the new introductions enticingly described. Read them carefully by all means, so that if during the season you see some of them in bloom, you can judge for yourself the accuracy of their descriptions, but they are recent introductions and in short supply, so they are more expensive, perhaps more than you intend, or ought to spend. So you move on to the list of older irises — do not forget that these have been tried over the years and are still available, so generally speaking they have some qualities that make them worth keeping in cultivation.

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## MORE NAME GAMES

C. A. Cromwell II, OK proffers punful perspicacity with these '78 iris names: CLOSE ORDER FRILLS, RELUCTANT DRAGIN and TOULOUSE. One wonders, was it his or him that accounted for GEORGE'S GORGEOUS by George Stambach, selected by Jacqueline A. Norton. Playful-tasteful names included SUPERSIMMON (Brown's Sunnyhill Gardens, OR) and PLUM PLUM (Carl Boswell, CA).

## New Regional Vice-Presidents

Dr. Hubert C. Mohr recently became Region 7 RVP. He joined AIS in 1964 "because I wanted to broaden my involvement in my professional field, horticulture." He credits Frank Brewer with giving him a "flying start" with a large assortment of tall bearded iris rhizomes. Before long, the Mohr yard contained over 500 TB varieties. This number has been reduced to 300 and includes Japanese, spurias, dwarfs, Louisianas and Siberians.

He became a charter member and first president of the Bluegrass Iris Society in 1964. In 1966, he began hybridizing irises with noteworthy success: his first introduction, *BRIDE'S HALO*, was the 1978 Dykes Medalist. He adds, "Sons Kenneth and David are active hybridizers and David started an iris business (Mohr Gardens) when he was only 15 years old (probably the youngest commercial grower in the U.S. at that time). We try to grow over 2000 seedlings each year, and submit the best of these to the Region 7 Test Garden, of which I have been director for the past five years."

Professionally, he is professor of horticulture at the University of Kentucky, where he is involved in both teaching and research. The latter, in cultivated *Cucurbitaceae*, includes breeding honeydew, pumpkin, squash and bush watermelons; a double dwarf watermelon, '*Kengarden*', was introduced recently.

\* \* \* \* \*



David Durnford, RVP of Region 11, began collecting irises in 1970 when a friend gave him a collection containing *GUDRUN*, *TIFFANJA* and others. At that time, he was still attending the University of Montana for a B.A. in botany. A gift membership in AIS from his mother intensified his budding "iris virus."

In recent years, David states that he has become "increasingly interested in the beardless irises and also hybridize tall bearded and border bearded irises." His private collection includes about 330 varieties; in addition, he cares for the 300 varieties in the Regional Test



## Garden in Missoula.

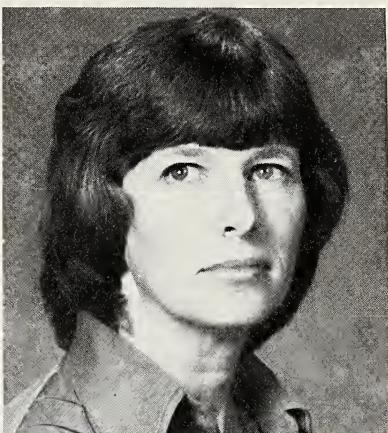
David's non-iris interests include growing other plants, specifically daylilies, clematis and lilies. He teaches dancing, enjoys oil painting, music and is active with the Audobon Society.

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Mrs. Ray Chesnik, new RVP of Region 15, is a native of Shawnee-Mission, Kansas. Janice moved to Phoenix, Arizona, where she lived for twenty years, raised three children and became active in garden club work. It was during a garden visit in 1966 to Ralph Johnson's iris garden that the world of irises caught her attention, and she joined the local society and AIS. The 1972 Portland convention "got her hooked," and soon after that she became an AIS judge, served as president of Sun Country Iris Society and was an area chairman for Region 15.

In 1976 Janice and another irisarian, Ray Chesnik, were married. That brought her to San Marcos, California and to Cordon Bleu Farms, and a hobby became an avocation as well. Besides getting a new home garden established, her work at the farm and a growing interest in hybridizing and photography, Janice gives programs on irises and daylilies to clubs throughout southern California and Arizona. She adds that she still finds time for a new hobby, stained glass work, and "occasionally a lamp, box or panel will 'just happen' to boast an iris."

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John McMillen, Region 16's RVP, states that his earliest iris memories date to "flags" in his grandmother's yard. About 15 years ago, a Canadian nursery advertised a ten-iris-special and this collection surprised and delighted him; "Wow, I didn't realize so many existed!" When he discovered the array offered by large commercial iris gardens, he was "estatic and hooked."

He joined AIS in 1971 and the Canadian Iris Society the next year. In 1973, he "decided to go commercial" and "promote iris in this area." He had begun a hybridizing program with northern rebloomers and states

that his garden grows "almost 700 varieties including various bearded classes,"

spuria, Siberian and Louisiana.

A director of the Canadian Iris Society and vice-president of the local horticultural society, he is a dairy farmer. His hobbies include dancing with his wife Gloria in a modern square dance club and church work. Sons Jimmy, 8 and Danny, 5 both have their own iris gardens and growing interests.

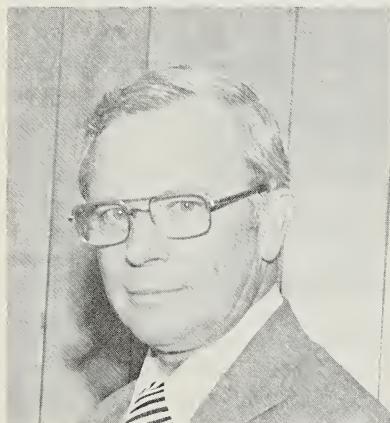
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John "Jack" Durrance, RVP of Region 20, claims that "it must be addicting for this is my second stint as RVP." The first was when he held the office in 1968-1970. He adds that he is "irrevocably hooked on irises," dating from a \$5 collection that he purchased and bloomed in the fifties.

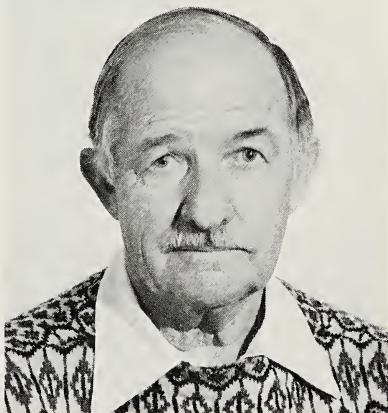
His iris collection grew and, with it, his enthusiasm for hybridizing them. He credits Dr. Phillip Loomis, LeMoine Bechtold, Eva Faught, Georgia Hinkle, Dave Hall, Orville Fay, Melba Hamblen, Neva Sexton, Bob Schreiner, Ev Long "and many, many others" as his instructors. Among the results were Awards of Merit for AZURE APOGEE and AZURE ECHO, a silver medal from Austria for AZURE ECHO, the Cook-Douglas Medal for EASTER HOLIDAY and a collection of certificates.

Jack's enthusiasm for the AIS extended to serving on the Board of Directors from 1958 to 1968, when he began his first term as RVP.

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1977 to William and his wife Sandra, made Lois and Grady the proud grandparents of twins.



Grady Kennedy, the new RVP for Region 24, is a native of Alabama and a graduate of the University of Alabama with a B.S. in business education and Oklahoma University with a M.A. in public administration. He works at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, where he is Secretary of the General Staff (SGS) for the U.S. Army Missile Research and Development Command.

Lois and Grady have three sons, Walter Andrew, William Earl and Lawrence Christopher; Chris was the winner of the 1977 AIS Youth Achievement Award. Robert Anthony and Leigh Ann, born in April

Iris involvement for Grady, Lois and Chris began in 1967 when they joined the North Alabama Iris Society. They are now members of all sections of AIS and grow a wide range of bearded and beardless irises. Grady had been hybridizing irises since 1968 and blooms about a thousand seedlings each year; most are from experimental crosses involving species. The RVP reports, however, that "the only second generation seedlings worth naming were the twins."

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## OUR READERS WRITE . . .

*Interesting, informative and meaningful "Letters to the Editor" are always welcome, and we will print as many as possible. Please share your iris knowledge and experiences with us as you react to BULLETIN articles.*

*Following are excerpts from a letter that Melba Hamblen of Utah, noted hybridizer and AIS Director, sent to the former Editor-in-Chief.*

"... I have been especially aware of 'regional' performance, since it did not take me many years to realize that my own originations performed disgracefully in some areas, while in others they did better than they do for me . . . I have seen irises growing from coast to coast and in many areas in between, and have never stopped wondering just why they perform so differently in so many places . . . I don't think we can blame it to the 'tenderness' inherited from the early tetraploids . . . My personal feeling is that the length of the growing season has as much to do with adaptability as anything else. I seldom see my own things at conventions because our late frosts prevent me from selecting early blooming varieties. I think this (length of growing season) is the reason my things were taller, with more buds and better branching, in Arkansas than they have been in Utah — and they were not so late that they were not blooming along with almost everything else for the Garden Tour.

"I've also come to this conclusion: since I get good bloom on one-year plants (if we don't have a late frost that knocks out most of the early California varieties), I figure that they are blooming on rhizomes that were developed in their gardens. Quite often that first year bloom is the best bloom I do get. The plants do not find our climate pleasing . . . Another factor is soil: things grown in heavy, or better rocky, soils do better here in Utah than they do in our sandy loam."

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### AIS NATIONAL CONVENTION SITES

1979 - Huntsville, Alabama, Region 24, May 1 - 5

1980 - Oklahoma, Region 22

1981 - Missouri, Region 18

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### In Memoriam

Quay Bauman — Region 7

James Marsh — Region 9

Minnie Price — Region 11

## Nature Photography: Its Art and Techniques.

Heather Angel, International Publishing Service.

W. George Waters, CA

*Mr. Waters is Editor of "Pacific Horticulture" magazine and a member of the "AIS Bulletin's" Editorial Committee.*

George Eastman built his fortune on the slogan, "You push the button, we do the rest." He knew that many potential customers would be discouraged by the need to load and unload cameras in a dark room. They were, instead, encouraged to send back film and camera; the exposed film was processed and printed, the camera reloaded and the customer was ready to begin snapping again.

Many photographers today have come to terms with the need to load and unload their cameras and perform other, technically precise, operations. Indeed, some welcome and enjoy the complexities of modern camera equipment and acquire additional lenses and attachments, I suspect, less for the optical facilities they provide than for the pleasure of handling them.

Extraordinary equipment can extend the photographer's range, of course, but good pictures are made by photographers, not by cameras. The finest equipment for a photographer is recognition of the limitations of the photographic process, knowledge of the subject to be pictured, and an eye for composition.

In *Nature Photography*, Heather Angel deals with equipment in an early chapter and devotes nine chapters to subject matter under such headings as Flowers, Plants Without Flowers, Trees, Birds, Aquatic Life, and so on. In each chapter, the special difficulties of each kind of subject are discussed from the naturalist's point of view as well as the photographer's. There are additional references in each chapter to special techniques and equipment demanded by the subject, but the emphasis is on a study of the subject and the composition of pictures.

The chapter of special relevance to readers of this *Bulletin* — and of particular interest to entrants in the recently-announced AIS photographic competition — is that on flowers. Flowers are discussed as subjects in the wild, in gardens and in the studio. The importance of the background is given great emphasis and several ways are described for presenting a subject with least distraction and, where possible, a background that enhances the subject.

It should not be necessary to say that high quality photographs are seldom achieved with hand-held cameras. Heather Angel is quite emphatic that "consistently better results will be achieved by using a tripod or some means of ground support." She discusses alternatives to a tripod, most of them more compact; but how seldom we see any kind of steadyng device used in iris photography.

Those parts of the book dealing with animal photography convey the excitement of stalking a subject and capturing it on film. A reader may find them beguiling enough to attempt something more challenging than the newest iris in his garden. If not, the incidental information gained from them will serve well in any photography, and time spent outdoors will be more pleasurable because of new perceptions from the author.

The illustrations, in color and black and white, are from the author's photographs. They inform and inspire.

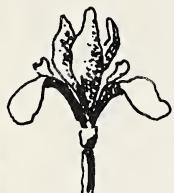
Good photographs can be made with simple equipment. Gadgets extend the range of possible subjects, but are no substitute for a practiced eye.

# The Great American Iris Photo Contest



Grand Prize: \$100 cash

Many other prizes of iris collections  
and award-winning rhizomes.



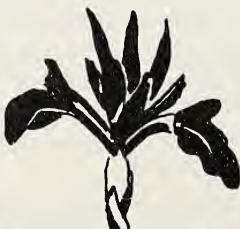
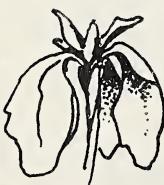
Contest rules available April 15, 1979:

send a self-addressed stamped (15¢)  
envelope to:

IRIS PHOTO CONTEST  
Dorothy Howard  
226 East 20th St.  
Tulsa, OK 74119



Contest closing date: July 15, 1979



# IN BEAUTIFUL BLACK AND WHITE!

Classes for many kinds of irises  
for iris in the landscape  
for iris in arrangements  
for youth  
for how-to-do-it: such as  
hybridizing, planting

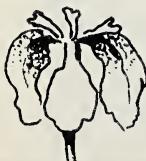
All entries become the property of the  
American Iris Society, non-returnable; they  
may be used in its publications and for  
publicity and promotion.

The American Iris Society accepts no  
responsibility for entries lost in the mail,  
or for entries not in accordance with contest  
rules.

Decisions of the judges will be final. Where  
no entries in a class are judged worthy,  
awards will not be made.

Contest is open to all, including  
non-members of the American Iris Society.

Members of the American Iris Society's  
Board of Directors and its Promotion  
Committee are not eligible to enter the  
contest.



## HINTS ON MEMBERSHIP

Robert L. Bledsoe, South Dakota

*Editor's Note: We have heard glowing reports of Mr. Bledsoe's success in enrolling new members. No one was surprised when he won the 1978 membership contest in Region 21. In hope that other regions will benefit from his experiences, we asked him to share his methodology.*

When I began my project to start a public exhibition bed of irises in Sioux Falls, I must confess that increased membership in AIS was not one of my goals. I just wanted to stimulate enough interest to organize a local iris society, as there was none in South Dakota. Increased AIS membership, however, was a direct result of this project. By examining step by step the process from planning this public bed to forming a large and local society affiliated with AIS, other regions desiring increased growth might benefit from our experience.

My wife and I had previously started a local rose society by beginning a small rose garden at Augustana College during my first year of teaching there. This effort was so effective in launching an aesthetic awareness on campus that the Augustana Fellows initiated a three-year campus beautification project, including the hiring of Mr. John L. Hart as Director of Grounds.

That same summer was the first time my wife and I became interested in growing irises. We were invited by the Charles Claussens to accompany them to view the John Griffin garden when the iris season was at its peak bloom. John's generosity with his increases that August started us growing irises for the first time, and we were hooked completely.

The next year's plans were made to expand the campus rose beds into a formal rose garden containing two hundred bushes by 1976. John Hart landscaped the entire area beautifully. In the meantime, he had seen the irises in bloom in my and other Sioux Falls gardens and was fascinated by their beauty. John included one large bed in his blueprints for the Augustana Fellows Rose Garden to be devoted exclusively to irises. This bed is very large and runs the full length of the largest rose bed with a walk between the two.

Since this would be the first public garden in the state to feature a bed designated for just irises, I decided to try to make it a spectacular one. I wrote to 40 hybridizers throughout the United States, informing them of our project and soliciting any introductions they might care to contribute. I was hopeful that at least ten would respond. Imagine my surprise when 30 of the 40 sent rhizomes! We were busy planting over 250 rhizomes from the end of July to the beginning of September.

The spot proved an excellent one for irises, and the weather cooperated that first spring so that peak bloom coincided with commencement when the maximum number of visitors was on campus. History repeated itself as we were able to form a local iris group based on interest created by the first year bloom. It was at this point that increased membership in AIS became a definite objective. The charter members, realizing the financial difficulties of AIS and knowing the importance of gaining more members, made membership in AIS a requirement for being in the local society. We also began an active membership campaign that included a decision to give each new member a starter collection of newer cultivars.

Thus, a domino effect was achieved. The public bed enabled us to form a local society. The new group then initiated a vigorous campaign to recruit new members. Another result of the public bed was an invitation for me to be one of the four featured speakers at the annual Continuing Education Day for Women at Augustana. Over 75 ladies attended this presentation, and the topic was, of course, growing irises. I made my "sales pitch" for AIS along with our promise of a starter collection. I also invited everyone not only to visit the campus bed, but to come to my house to see more irises. I recruited a number of new members that very day.

This talk led to other speaking engagements. Talks illustrated by a critical selection of slides (one tray maximum) are an excellent recruiting method. If there is a speaker's bureau in your community, offer your name and topic. Program chairmen, not only of clubs interested in horticulture, but of civic groups as well, are desperate for new speakers. You will be surprised at the number of speaking engagements you have in one year. If approached by members of the audience interested in joining AIS, accept their checks on the spot. Don't expect them to mail them to AIS. The interest is spontaneous. It's up to you and your fellow members to follow through and keep the interest alive.

This is the point where generosity plays an important role. I invited all new members to make a list of the irises they wanted most, and I would supply as many as possible. I could have had a bed each of the following varieties and still not had enough rhizomes: LE SEDNA; THANKSGIVING; VENETIAN DANCER; BRIDE'S HALO; RIPPLED BRASS; PRAISE THE LORD; ORANGE EMPIRE; RUFFLED BALLET; PENCIL SKETCH; LOST IN WONDER; MYSTIQUE; STRAWBERRY WINE; SPANISH MIDAS; MIDNIGHT SPECIAL; CONVERSATION PIECE; MELON BISQUE; PARFAIT AMOUR; SONGSTER; SPARTAN; ANGEL CHOIR; LOVELY, LOVELY; FIVE STAR ADMIRAL; SOLANO; LOUISE WATTS; EVE'S TEMPTATION; CAIRO LYRIC; COSMOPOLITAN; INTERPOL. Whenever possible I substituted one of similar color or form.

In addition to attracting members, keeping records on preferences provides information for future articles that might prove helpful to hybridizers, for unlike the Popularity Poll, it measures the qualities that attract novices. Another benefit of sharing is the increased visibility of the iris throughout the area. A public garden and several large private gardens create awareness of the newest advances in hybridizing, but forty to fifty gardens are even better advertisements. Also, I found that when a new member visited my garden to select his irises, he brought friends to see the beds. I recruited even more members during the bloom season than from my previous speaking engagements. Before digging and dividing the plants, we had a program for the new members, demonstrating planting and cultivating of the iris.



*Bob Bledsoe (right) examines an iris planting chart with Augustana College Director of Grounds, John L. Hart, one of many new AIS members in Reg. 21.*

The final step in our membership campaign came when I was invited to be a guest on a popular TV talk show last August. The station received so many calls after the program that I've been booked for a show this year during bloom season. I personally received many calls and recruited other new AIS members. TV is perhaps the best method of recruitment, and I plan to use it even more in the future. Television reaches a much wider public and can possibly be the beginning of other local iris societies in neighboring communities. Don't, however, expect media coverage until your local society has created a public awareness and interest in the iris.

In summary, start a public bed. If there is no private college in your area, begin a bed in a local park or at a church willing to give you space. The public bed is an essential feature in my opinion. Nobody would characterize me as shy or introverted; however, I never would have visited the Griffin garden without the Claussen's invitation. People are hesitant to visit a stranger's garden no matter how friendly the host may be, but they will go to see a public planting. Publicize the bloom season and the public bed. Accept speaking engagements. Be generous. Share your cultivars, but ask for a check to AIS in return. Plan programs of interest to new irisarians. These hints should produce results. They did in Sioux Falls. Before the beginning of the public garden, there were six AIS members in the city. Now we have a membership of nearly 50. More importantly, the new members are very enthusiastic, many planning new beds next year. It's all very rewarding!



## ROBINS

**Program Chairman: Mary Alice Hembree**

### Robin Sections and Chairmen

**IRISES IN GENERAL:** Mrs. Eunice Carter, Box 151, Jamul, CA 92035

**TALL BEARDED:** Otis R. Skinner, Jr., Box 902, Yorktown, TX 78164

**HYBRIDIZING:** George Bryant, 1909 Calle de Suenos, Las Cruces, NM 88001

**ARILBRED:** George Bryant, see above

**INTERNATIONAL:** Mrs. Mary Herd, Box 57, Jacksboro, TX 76056

**HISTORICAL:** Mrs. Harriet Segesemann, 380 Crescent Dr., Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417

**SPECIAL INTERESTS:** Space Age, Novelty, Artistic (includes Arts & Crafts), Arils, Fragrance, Teens and Twenties: Mrs. Dan Edelman (Faye), Box 591, Fort Morgan, CO 80701

**REBLOOMING IRISES:** Dr. Norman Noe, Mallard Dr., Martinsville, NJ 08836

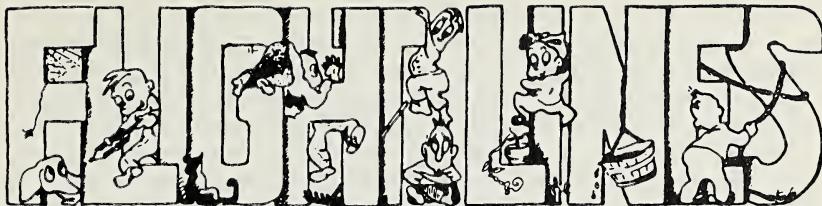
**MEDIANAS:** Mr. Cleo Palmer, Route 3, Geary, OK 73040

**SIBERIANS:** Mrs. Marjorie Barnes, 1806 N.E. 73rd St., Seattle, WA 98115

**SPURIAS & LOUISIANAS:** Mrs. Al Spencer, 2539 East 17th St., Tulsa, OK 74104

**EVANSIAS, JAPANESE, SPECIES & NATIVES:** Mrs. Alan Reid, 41866 McKenzie Hwy., Rt. 2, Springfield, OR 97477

**REGIONAL:** Mrs. Delbert Long, P.O. Box 33, Virgil, KS 66870



SAM REECE, *Editor*  
1843 E. Brown Ave., Fresno, CA 93703

1979 issued change in the editorial staff. We would like to welcome aboard our new editor Ann Dasch. My association with Ann began over ten years ago in the Robins. She brings many talents and dedication to the office, but to be successful she needs the total support of all members of AIS. A society and its bulletin is only successful to the point of support that its members are willing to lend it.

May we remind our reporters to lend support to *Flight Lines* so that pertinent information from across the country and world may be effective.

We hope that the visions of grandeur you had last winter for your garden in the spring will be exceeded in reality this spring.

**Cleo Palmer; Geary, OK:** Round Up will take care of most any of your perennial weeds, and has the advantage of not being translocated through the ground and picked up by the roots of the irises. Also it has no vapor or fume action so doesn't hurt nearby plants. ONLY that which the spray contacts are killed, but it is extremely lethal to most any plant life when sprayed in a growing condition. So it can be used in the iris bed if you take measures to ensure the iris are not hit with the spray, or are washed off immediately if they are hit with any stray spray solution. This can be done by taking a brush and painting the undesired weed if plants can not otherwise be covered for protection. One big drawback though, it is expensive — \$55.00 per gallon wholesale or \$65-70.00 retail, and not sold in less than one gallon lots.

**L. P. Irvin; Kissimmee, FL:** A few of us in Florida along with some others who come down just for 3 or 4 months in the winter have formed a Florida Iris Society. There are not more than 15 or 18 members of A.I.S. now resident in Florida and some do not grow irises now. Will we ever be able to organize a show? We will plan get-togethers even if we have nothing to show — a luncheon affair where we can talk iris. Last year we met at the Holiday Inn in Plant City, Fl. during the strawberry season in February before the blooming of the Louisianas. I did take one La. that put forth color early. Later during bloom season a few met at my garden where about 120 stalks were in bloom of not more than 15 varieties. Many friends in this retirement community of 1600 persons did come to see my small garden when news spread that irises were actually blooming. Not one of the visitors had seen a Louisiana iris, and were astonished to see 4 ft. high stalks as well as some 18 inches. *I. pseudacorus* will reach 6 ft. or more where I have it growing in the edge of a creek which flows about 50 ft. from the patio at the back of our apartment.

## JAPANESE

**W. E. Ouweneel; Terre Haute, IN:** I have a color photo from Japan showing GOLDEN QUEEN, a hybrid of *I. pseudacorus* x a Japanese iris. It has typical J. I. form, and is solid yellow with darker signal patch. The only such hybrids that I know were made with J. I. pollen on *I. pseudacorus* None in reverse. When I pollinated I placed the foot of a discarded nylon stocking over the bud (the donor and receiver) as soon as the color appeared, and tied it tightly below the bud. Two or three days later I checked the stigma on the pod parent to be sure it was about at right angles to the style and the pollen to be sure it was about ready to fall off the anther. I then made my cross, tied the cover around the bud again and leaving it until the flower wilted.

**Stan Baird; Blue Lake, CA:** *I have discovered to my sorrow that J. I. are extremely susceptible to damage by even minute traces of herbicides. Gardeners here are afflicted with a weed called "sheep sorrel." No matter how carefully you try to dig out all the roots, if a tiny piece 1/2" long is left it grows and multiplies appallingly. I have used 2-4D, Dowpon and most recently amino triazole. I apply the herbicide to the leaves of the weed with a very small paint brush or a hand pumped spray bottle. I successfully eradicated Canadian thistle from my garden with amino triazole and the sheep sorrel is in retreat but not entirely defeated; perhaps because the leaf surface is rather small in relation to the roots. Frequently it takes 2 or 3 sprayings to effect complete kill.*

*I had several clumps of J. I. invaded by sheep sorrel, and though I applied the herbicide with great care not to get any on the leaves of the iris I lost 2 clumps and 2 or 3 others look decidedly ill. Amino triazole is not supposed to build up in the soil, but I think when the roots died and rotted our heavy winter rains leached traces of herbicide out to the iris roots. SHIN HEWIA had its first small bloom here last year. It is hazardous to judge by first bloom, but as it bloomed here I thought it to be unquestionably the pinkest J. I. I had ever seen.*

**Adolph Vogt; Louisville, KY:** *I found out several years ago that J. I. are very susceptible to 2-4D. A persistent morning glory-like vine infested one of my beds so I let the vines grow about 2' long, put on rubber gloves, soaked 2 sponges in 2-4D and very carefully pulled the vines through the sponges. It did a good job of killing the vines, but in about a month's time J. I. were distorted. Although I moved them to another location; most did not survive. The next year I set some seedlings in the bed and they did the same. I had to remove a lot of soil and replace it with new soil from the garden. Sorrel and nut grass can be controlled by covering the affected area with newspapers with 2 or more inches of leaves on the newspapers.*

## OTHER BEARDLESS

**Richard Morgan; Little Rock, AR:** IMPERIAL RUBY was real pretty. OBJECT D'ART, ANTIQUA and URBANE were nice also. RED OAK and EAGLE have bloomed every year while BUTTER PADDLE, PURPLE PONCHO and some others have never bloomed. I must be doing something wrong.

**Ruth Wilder; Huntsville, AL:** Bloom season here was a little off, but Spurias did better than Louisianas. Joe Ghio's OATH was my favorite bloom.

**Virginia Mathews; Stillwater, OK:** My new Louisianas ANN CHOWNING and BRYCE LEIGH didn't bloom last spring on first year plants, although they grew

well. ILA CRAWFORD is a really good Spuria. It bloomed 2 stalks the first year and had 3 stalks this year. It is really pretty. CLARKE COSGROVE is lovely.

**Lewis Prestage; Bakersfield, CA:** *The Louisianas were pure joy, uncommon in this area. All who saw them were just short of incredulous. It would be wonderful for a Louisiana to make the Dykes Medal, but it will be necessary for more people to not only know them but to grow them.*

**Lilian Bourne; Ohio:** The only worry is that borers are extremely fond of Louisianas. Old DOROTHEA K. WILLIAMSON can find and harbor more borers than anything else on the place.

## ARIL AND ARILBRED

**Esther Terrill; Burlingame, KS:** *Stoloniferas are consistently the best regelias here and I love them. That pretty beard is appealing.*

**Tom Little; NM:** I was over at Gus's (Seligmann) this summer, and he had harvested just about all his seeds. I mentioned that I had read and also heard from George (Bryant), that the seeds could be planted fresh out of the pod, and I heard this increased germination: the dormancy factor had not developed yet. We were discussing this over pie-pan of *I. gatesii* x *I. kirkwoodii* seeds. I took the seeds home and planted them outside in peat moss in the open ground. And watered. And watered. And watered. Everyone talks about germination in three weeks. Four, five, six . . . . They finally germinated three and a half months later, after the weather became cooler. I have theories about that, but . . . . Anyway, there are now 11 seedlings out of 49 seeds planted, and more come up every few weeks. I'll probably have a very substantial number by spring. This seems like a good method . . . if you can overwinter the seedlings. Here in our climate it's not much of a problem.

## MEDIANS

**Joe Gatty; Stockton, CA:** *The results from SHOW BABY strongly hint that it should be more widely used with the best of the current SDB blues. My work with it involved F3-5, a finished blue with a blue spot, and there were many pretty ruffled variations on this color scheme among the seedlings. The best appeared to be a pale blue with indigo-blue wash across the hafts. I agree: TEASE has class. I worked it into my plicata line this season in the hope that in time some sib breeding of the seedlings might turn up a red and white plicata. I also used Hager's CLAP HANDS quite a bit — though I will not touch APRIL FOOL since it appears to have inherited the "blooming-out" factor greatly.*

**Gus Seligmann; Las Cruses, NM:** The best clumps this season are: CENTER PIECE, BLOND DOLL, ARRANGEMENT, CHEERS, JOLLY FELLOW, INDIAN POW POW, PLATINUM GOLD, SO FAIR, RED BABY and PLICADEE. RED BABY grows more like a BB for me

**Esther Terrill; Burlingame, KS:** *I like the MTB's here as we invariably have strong winds at iris bloom time. These Tables sway with the breeze and don't fall all over the rows like TB's do here. Even the best can go down sometimes, and it's sickening! Besides, there is a lot of work yet to be done in the MTB class and I like a challenge. And the competition is far less. About the time I think I have a good TB, along comes someone with one much like it. Seems we make progress in irises about the same all over the country at once.*

## TALL BEARDED

**Graeme Morgan; South Africa:** Only a few irises have bloomed (at this time), mostly old ones. First by far is *LORD BALTIMORE*, a magnificent clump with stems 45" high and 10 to 12 large flowers per stalk. Then *ROYAL HERITAGE*, same height stalks, flowers very large. *RIPPLING CLOUDS*, no great color contrast between S & F, nicely ruffled, somewhat shorter. *SHIPSHAPE* and *NEW MOON* are magnificent. *RETA FRY* is tall and large; to be used in my hybridizing program this year. Apparently one gets unusual results from it.

**Cleo Palmer; Geary, OK:** . . . a few talls that impressed me this season were: *HIGH TEA*, a white with narrow yellow rim on both the standards and falls, that looks to have much quality judging by a first year plant. It is similar to *BRIDE'S HALO* which is also good. *PROMISSORY NOTE*, a fairly dark pink with darker haft veining looked pretty fair on a first year plant. It does look as if it may well promise the pink based plicatas that have been strived towards for a number of years now. *CROW'S NEST*, a black with large flower, but think it is fairly plain as to frills. Somewhat like *EVENING CHIMES* I think. *SAILOR TOGS* and *FIVE STAR ADMIRAL* are both very nice dark blue-violets, but need much better branching and spacing. *SAILOR'S DANCE* is a bit lighter and more frilly. *FLATTERY* is an older one in a light blue shade that is still quite good, and *FLAIR* is a newer one of similar blue shade with high quality throughout. *TEMPO* is a pale blue with much darker blue veining and huge flowers for something different if you like the veining. *CAROLINA HONEY* is another quite large one in brown and very ruffled, but the falls do not have much flare. *MR. LINCOLN* is another fine brown. *SKYLAB* and *MYSTIQUE* are both fine dark amoenas. *HAPPY ENDING* is somewhat lighter than these two and quite ruffled. It looks as if it would prove to be a most interesting breeder for amoena plicatas. *HAPPY HALO*, a white based pinkish plicata of quality and *CHARMED CIRCLE* still is a strong competitor in the white and blue plic types and has a dark blue beard, but tends to be short here.

## HYBRIDIZING

**Ray Leech; Rescue, CA:** When pods form, we cover with a "sack" made of the fabric my wife calls "tulle", the material that makes the ballerina's skirt flare horizontally. It's just about all holes, lets air through, and keeps chewing and sucking insects out. This idea originated with Virginia Ross, or at least she is the one who told us about it. They last several seasons. After the pod is dry, it splits and the seeds are caught in the "net." We clip them off and store them in paper bags in a inside closet until planting time in the fall.

**Bill Clough; Pittsfield, PA:** I have found if you set pods on 1 stalk in a clump of irises then decide to transplant that clump before the seed pods ripen there is no problem. Simply, but carefully cut the attached rhizomes off then dig the rhizomes leaving the one with the pods intact. I have done this several times, and the pods and seeds turn out fine. When I prepared the seed bed I didn't have time to plant the seeds so I covered the prepared ground with a large piece of plastic to keep it dry in case of rain; and also to keep cats and other animals from digging in it. Once the entire bed is planted off comes the plastic; then I cover the ground with wire mesh. I usually place some old 2 x 4's along the edge to hold up the wire mesh so it doesn't sink into the ground. The wire mesh is removed in the spring when the seeds start to germinate.

**Ginnie Melnick; Jackson, TN:** I tried a new method with my iris seed early this year since I failed to get them planted last fall. The end of January I put a little

moist sphagnum moss in small plastic bags — one for each cross, put in the seeds of a cross, shook it a bit then placed the cross label into the bag and folded the tops down tight. Then all the small bags were put into a larger plastic bag and tied tight at the top. The large bag was then placed in the refrigerator until mid March. The soil here could be worked so the seeds were removed and planted in the ground out doors. The plot was kept moist, and I had almost 100% germination. I will do the same with this year's seed, but I will get the seeds into the refrigerator earlier since I can safely plant outside by the first of March, and not expect heavy frosts to get any seedlings that germinate quickly.

*Cleo Palmer; Geary, OK: I often wonder why some crosses don't take when it seems they should, and on the otherhand you make one that you think won't take, but does. Guess many things go into determining whether a pod develops or not. Using pollen too early is one thing that one is apt to do and thus not get a pod. I don't understand why this occurs as pollen looks like it would dry out and then work, but doesn't work that way. The stigmas either dry out before the pollen is dry, or possibly the cell walls of the wet pollen is so tender they rupture with the applying to the stigmas. What ever the reason it seldom sets a pod. Ground too dry results in few pods even after a rain for some time, and I suspect that our winds have a decided effect on how long the stigmas remain receptive. On very windy days it may be for only a very short time — especially if the humidity is low as well. Temperature seems to make a difference also, as more pods seem to develop from cool to cold pollination than when it is hot, probably because the stigmas remain receptive for a longer period of time in cool weather.*

## GENERAL

**Allan Ensminger; Lincoln, NE:** I found a work saver this year. Digging and discarding the two year old seedlings has always been a tremendous job, but I found out that Round Up kills irises if they are sprayed with it in June and early July. It takes about a month for the irises to die, but it works and supposedly it degrades or degenerates in the soil and is not harmful. This is a non selective herbicide and kills most anything that is growing. In finding out about Round Up I also found out something for sure about irises. The ones sprayed in June and early July are dead. The ones sprayed with Round Up in early August are still alive, and I believe some will recover. It becomes evident that our irises are not growing, but are dormant in August. I have my seed bed ready to fumigate with Vapam then cover the bed with plastic. Sure saves me a lot of hand weeding in the spring.

**Fred Spahn; Dubuque, IA:** *I am still sold on Treflan after 5 years of using it. Everyone comments about the total lack of weeds in the garden. I buy Treflan in a product called "Preen." Actually there is less than 1½% Treflan and the balance is all inert ingredients. I use the granular type which is a more precise way of applying it. A 16 pound bag of the granules covers 2500 ft., measures 4 cups to the pound and 1 pound covers about 160 ft. I made a shaker out of a pint jar with a brass lid and punched about 100 holes in the lid with an ice pick. I can tell the amount to use without measuring from experience. The granules are sprinkled around on the soil, and at the same time I apply a handful of fertilizer around the clump in mid April then it is cultivated. This is necessary with the Treflan as it is degradable in sunlight. This lasts all year and; makes gardening half the work. There is absolutely no evidence of problems after 5 years, or I would discontinue using it.*

**Jean Eads; Midland, TX:** In November a problem appeared; a rot that was snow white inside the rhizomes. I could not find anything in the books about it. I was advised to clean out the rot and put Ajax or Comet on it. Has anyone had any experience with this white rot? For grass control we use dieseloil — lightly. It is much less expensive (48¢ as to \$6), and also seems to last a little longer.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### AIS Bylaws Available

If you would like a copy, send a stamped, self-addressed legal size long envelope to the AIS Secretary Mrs. Carol Ramsey, 6518 Beachy Ave., Wichita, KS 67206.

### AIS Foundation Address

Contributions to the American Iris Society Foundation should be sent to the Foundation Secretary Dr. John Harvey, Jr. 203 W. Pembrey Dr., Wilmington, DE 19803.

### BULLETIN Copy Deadlines

See deadlines for each issue on page 1 and mail articles to the Editor-in-Chief or other editors at addresses listed. Articles, letters and good black and white photographs will be gratefully received; space may limit the use of some material, however, and we reserve the right to edit contributions.

### Advertising Copy Deadlines

The Advertising Editor must receive copy for advertisements two months prior to the month of the *Bulletin* in which it is to run. For the Winter issue, by Nov. 1; for Spring, by Feb. 1; for Summer, by May 1 and for Fall, by Aug. 1. Copy for cover ads due Nov. 1 and May 1 for the two issues following each.

### Additional Show Reports

The following 1978 show reports from Region 3 were submitted to late to appear with the listing printed previously.

Place of Show	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Queen of Snow	Exhibitor
Exton, PA	Mrs. Grant Kegerise	Mrs. Richard Kegerise	FULL TIDE	Mrs. Grant Kegerise
York, PA	Mr. Sterling Innerst	Mr. Harold Goshorn	SIVA SIVA	Mr. Harold Goshorn
Harrisburg, PA	Mrs. Grant Kegerise	Mr. Sterling Innerst	VANITY	Mrs. Grant Kegerise

### Society Promotes Study

The Iris Society of Minnesota sponsors an annual scholarship of \$350.00; the award is made by the Board of Directors to a student studying in the field of horticulture in a college or vocational school. A committee of three receives and presents nominations to the Board, reports Julius Wadekamper, Region 8 RVP.

### New SIGNA Office

To know and enjoy the greatest possible number of irises, consider a \$3 membership in the Species Iris Group of North America. Benefits include bi-annual newsletters and the seedlist; the surest way to build up a species collection is to grow them from seed. Make your payment to SIGNA and mail to Mrs. G. C. Carter, 1212 Tucker Rd., Hood River, OR 97031. To receive the seedlist without joining SIGNA, send a long, stamped and self-addressed envelope to Mary Duvall, Rt. 1 Box 142, Dassel, MN 55325.

# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Ernesta Lemmi Pacciani, President of the committee for the International Iris Competition, sends word from Florence, Italy to AIS members that the Italian Iris Society will hold the famed "Premio Firenze" International Iris Competition Monday, May 7 to Saturday, May 12 at the Iris Garden Piazzale Michelangelo in Florence. The awards ceremony will be Saturday, May 12 at the town hall, Palazzo Vecchio.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Thanks to Joseph Ghio for sending the news he received that the results of the Australian Iris Society's Popularity Poll included these top ten —

1. WEDDING VOW (78 votes)
2. VANITY (52)
3. FULL TIDE (29)
4. MYSTIQUE (26)
5. LEMON MIST (25)
6. CHARMED CIRCLE (24)
7. CHARJOY'S DAVID (21)
8. MRS. IRA NELSON (20)
9. & 10. SHIPSHAPE and DEBBY RAIRDON (19)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Mrs. T. A. Blanco White, Honorary Secretary of The British Iris Society, sends apologies to those American BIS members who are awaiting their Year Book. A printing delay and strike caused problems.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Other BIS news includes "Cannington Capers" — an iris weekend featuring an exhibition, garden tour and talks — set for May 25 to 28 near Brigwater, Somerset. Write to Mrs. T. A. Blanco White, 72 South Hill Park, London, NW3 2SN for details; she writes, "Naturally, we are always delighted to see any of the AIS members who are over here at any time of the year."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

We are advised that iris rhizomes cannot be shipped into Ireland. Our friend, Samuel Sipe, would greatly appreciate receiving some iris seed, and is interested in all types of irises. If you can make some crosses for Sam, please send the seed to:

S. F. Sipe  
Kinneagh House  
The Curragh  
County Kildare  
Ireland

### MINIATURE TALL BEARDED IRIS

#### 1979 Introductions

<b>LEMON FLIRT</b> —Lemon yellow self with horizontal, flaring falls and slightly ruffled standards. 20".	.....	\$10.00
<b>SUPRISE BLUE</b> —Exceedingly floriferous light violet-blue with excellent flower form. Sdlg. X-224. HC '78. 19".	.....	\$10.00
<b>FAIRY LACE</b> —Makes a small, dainty clump with many flaring, ruffled ivory flowers.	.....	\$10.00
<b>DOLL RIBBONS</b> (1978). Dainty dark violet-blue plicata.	.....	\$ 7.50

*Price list of previous introductions on request.*

**Mary Louise Dunderman**

480 White Pond Drive

Akron, Ohio 44320

## SELLMAN'S IRIS GARDENS

**AKU AKU** — Sdlg. E-27. TB, 36", M. (Epic X Rippling Waters). The odd coloring of this iris gives it an air of mystery. The blossoms are medium lobelia blue with dark lobelia blue beard and veining, which radiates from the center of the flower up the center of the closed S. and across the middle of the flaring F. The ruffled blooms are large, with many buds on a straight stalk. .... \$25.00

**AMARILLO** — Sdlg. F-36. TB, 36", M. (Nob Hill x Craftsman) X Reta Fry. A smooth, heavily textured, sturdy iris with long-lasting blooms. The large, ruffled flowers have closed S. of rich Indian yellow. The flaring F. are a lighter shade of the same color with a wide edging of the rich S. hue. There is an intensity of color not often found in this class. .... \$25.00

**DISCO DANCER** — Sdlg. E-61. TB, 36", M. (Touche X Victorian Days). An exciting iris of unusual coloring and real beauty. The closed S. are salmon-pink, and flaring F. are pansy violet with a tangerine beard. All petals are ruffled. An advance in a rare color combination. .... \$25.00

**FLAMING BANNER** — Sdlg. E-70. TB, 34", M. (Christie Ann x Orange Parade) X Flaming Star. A brilliant tangerine-orange iris commanding instant attention from everyone. Form could be better, but the flower is desired by all who see it in the garden. .... \$25.00

**MAGIC LAND** — Sdlg. C-61. TB, 38", E-M. (Blue Leather X Winter Olympics). The definite silver edging on all petals of this campanula violet iris is like a magical silver lining peeking out from under dark clouds. All petals are ruffled with closed S. and semi-flaring F. A vigorous grower with straight stalks carrying up to eleven buds. .... \$25.00

**PHOENIX FLASH** — Sdlg. F-88. TB, 34", M. (Spanish Gift X Flaming Star). A very smooth orange with closed S. and flaring F. This iris has good form, ruffling and beautiful color. Truly a "Firebird" in all of its glory. .... \$25.00

**VICTORIAN WALTZ** — Sdlg. E-81. TB, 36", M. (Waltzing X Victorian Days). This iris is like a frilly gown worn at an elegant ball. The flowers are ruffled with closed S. of light lobelia blue. The beard and flaring F. are amethyst violet. A strong grower with good branching and a touch of lace. .... \$25.00

*Generous bonuses with all orders. All previously introduced irises are available. See past Spring issues for their descriptions.*

**EDGAR SELLMAN**

577 N. Alviso Road

Mountain View, CA 94040

## *When Visiting A Garden . . .*

*Maynard Harp, Maryland*

*Maynard Harp, former RVP of Region 4, is an enthusiastic and excellent iris photographer. In addition, he and Retta own the 69-acre "Maywood" which has been a highlight of AIS regional tours and visited by many other organizations.*

Some years ago a candid photograph was obtained of a very dear friend, Dr. Anne Lee, as she walked between two rows of blooming irises in the garden of Lloyd Zurbrigg, Radford, Va. The photograph was published in the August 1970 NEWSCAST of Region 4. Anne is no longer with us, but the photograph remains as a perfect example of the care one can have when visiting an iris garden during bloom season. Anne was pictured holding her handbag back of her as she went between the rows.

Although Anne was avoiding damage to the Iris by holding the handbag back of her, it can be held in any position which prevents it swinging into, or hitting a garden plant. Similar caution can be used with camera equipment bags, and tape recorder satchels. If umbrellas are in the garden they are usually open and overhead. Camera tripods can be somewhat of a hazard to both people and plants. And tripods may be an inconvenience for the user on a garden tour, both in the gardens, and when getting on and off buses.

Camera owners with tripods are looking for perfection in their pictures. They usually have high quality cameras with various fast shutter speeds such as 1/250, 1/500 or 1/1000 of a second. With these high speed shutters a bloom moving in a slight breeze might be photographed as if it were calm. These higher speeds can also be used for close-ups. Using a hand held camera in this way will often provide excellent pictures without the worry with a tripod.

Holding the camera firmly against the face as one looks through the view finder will help to steady the camera for the picture. A further help in eliminating the tripod is the use of high speed film such as film rated at ASA200 or ASA400. An appropriate higher shutter speed is required when using these high speed films. The ASA adjustment on the camera should be checked to be sure it is reset to match the rating of the high speed film when it is placed in the camera. If you deal with a full service photo shop its personnel can advise you with any information regarding this. ASA200 film is usually fast enough for hand held camera photography in day light.

When we see a bloom with outstanding substance in a host garden there may be a strong temptation to feel it. In our own gardens we can do this without restraint, but no blooms should be touched in a tour garden unless the host suggests it. Sometimes one is inclined to be helpful in a friend's garden by removing finished blooms from the plants. Had our host purposely left the spent blooms as a quick way to count the total number of blooms? Or, perhaps, some of the spent blooms had been crossed.

In a tour garden it is not always possible to get to the owner with a word of thanks before the bus Captain sounds the whistle. When this cannot be accomplished a mailed note later can show appreciation and give encouragement.

# IRIS SLIDES FOR RENTAL

*AIS maintains excellent sets of iris slides that may be rented. Each set has about 100 slides, 35 mm size. Ideal as a program for iris or garden club meetings, they are a fine way to study and enjoy new and old irises or see rare, exotic and unusual species. To order, see details at end of list.*

## SLIDE SETS AVAILABLE

**IRISES FOR EVERY GARDEN** — Nice for garden clubs, this set includes an assortment of both bearded and beardless, the 25 leading TBs from the Popularity Poll and sketches for planning garden settings.

**IRIS THROUGH THE SEASONS** — Follows the iris around the calendar, in house and garden.

**MANY TYPES AND COLORS OF IRISES** — Bearded, bulbous, beardless in their great variety

**BEARDLESS AND BULBOUS** — Species and cultivars other than bearded: Bulbous, Junos, Crested, Spurias, Siberians, Louisianas, Western Natives and Japanese

**JAPANESE IRISES** — Slides of exotic beauties contributed by Adolph J. Vogt

**LOUISIANA IRISES** — Based on contributions from C. W. Arny, Jr. and Mary Dunn, it includes species, arrangements, and the development of Louisiana irises

**SIBERIANS AND SPURIAS** — Both species and cultivars of these beardless

**THE WILD ONES** — Iris species from around the world

**THE OTHER BEARDED IRISES** — Other than tall bearded: Dwarfs, Medians, Arils, Arilbreds

**DWARF IRISES** — Old and new miniature and standard dwarf bearded irises

**THE MEDIANS** — Standard dwarf bearded, intermediate bearded, miniature tall bearded and border bearded irises

**ARILS AND ARILBREDS** — Survey of aril and arilbred species and cultivars

**DYKES: GENUS IRIS AND DYKES MEDAL WINNERS** — Slides from the color plates of W. R. Dykes' *The Genus Iris*; sampling of English, French and early American Dykes Medal winners; all American winners since 1939

**THE POPULARITY POLL** — The 100 favorite tall bearded irises presented in the order chosen by AIS members

**THE NEW RELIABLES** — Popular, less expensive, bearded irises that have stood the test of widespread distribution; garden scenes

**RECENT AWARD WINNERS** — Tall bearded Award of Merit and Honorable Mention winners selected by judges in the past three years

**THE NEWEST IN IRISES** — Recent introductions; most slides made by the hybridizers in the irises' home gardens

**THE DESCENDENTS OF PAUL COOK'S FAMOUS PROGENITOR** — A new set delineating progress in bicolor and amoena breeding; with commentary and a genealogical chart

**THE MARK OF QUALITY** — Slides of fine irises, selected as above average photographs

**REGION 4 in '74, ROANOKE CONVENTION** — Headquarters, garden scenes and irises on tour

**ROANOKE CONVENTION 1974**

**SAN DIEGO CONVENTION 1975**

**MICHIGAN CONVENTION 1976**

**SAN JOSE CONVENTION 1973**

**PREVIEW OF THE 1979 HUNTSVILLE CONVENTION**

**FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS FEATURING IRISES** — Sets of slides with iris arrangements

**IRISES IN THE VISUAL ARTS** — European, Oriental and American paintings, arts and crafts that include irises

**TO ORDER:** Requests for slides should be made well in advance for proper scheduling, preferably 30 days or longer. State the exact date desired, so that slides can be sent insured airmail, and include a second choice date, if possible. Some sets may be especially popular or booked well in advance, so give a second and third choice, if optional. Send your complete address, including zip code. Slides are to be returned insured airmail, the next day after use. A check for \$5.00 (for set of 100 slides), payable to the American Iris Society, must accompany each order, except for the one free program per year for each Affiliated Society.

Mail to: D. C. Nearpass, Slides Chairman

9526 50th Place  
College Park, Maryland 20740

## 1979 Introductions

DEAR HEDLEY (M. Heisz '79). TB, 34", M. (Frilly Fringes X Cora-band). A lovely blend of ivory-yellow and light red, laced and ruffled with elegant carriage of grace and poise. Good substance. . . . \$20.00

LADY LANGE (M. Heisz '79). Arilmed, 17", M. (Pogo X Kalifa Gulnare). S. yellow with splashes of red. F. are deeper yellow with green influence, red markings and veining; yellow beard. . . . \$15.00

MARILYN A. (M. Heisz '79). Arilmed, 19", M. (Pogo X Kalifa Gulnare). Light blue-violet with deeper markings, gold styles and violet midrib; orange beard. F. short, round and recurved with violet spot radiating to gold edge. . . . \$15.00

GLEND A SUSAN (M. Heisz '79). Arilmed, 17", M. (Pogo X Kalifa Gulnare). Closed S. pale yellow; darker yellow beard. Recurved F. are darker shade of S. color with brown markings highlighting around beard. Well-formed flower. . . . \$15.00

## HEISZ IRIS GARDEN

P.O. Box 142

Selden, KS 67757

## WINNERS — 1978 NEW MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

NAME	POINTS EARNED
Mrs. Margaret Connally, Region 24	322
Dr. Robert L. Bledsoe, Region 21	259
Doris Jean Barton, Region 24	250
Dr. & Mrs. Edward I. Browne, Region 7	220
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond N. Miller, Region 7	206
Mrs. C. Daniel Overholser, Region 6	200
Stuart Loveless, Region 6	152
Oren E. Campbell, Region 22	130
W. G. Frass, Region 22	120
John Granville Benson, Region 7	96
Delores Moller, Region 13	94
Joseph J. Ghio, Region 14	92
Lester Hildenbrandt, Region 21	80
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. C. Belus, Region 7	74
James Ennenga, Region 21	74
Gordon W. Plough, Region 13	70

## Editor's Page

Starting this, my first issue as Editor-in-Chief, was an exciting challenge. I was fortunate that many talented people agreed to be on staff. Phil Edinger, the former editor whose professional responsibilities had forced him to give up the post, agreed to serve as Associate Editor. His advice and assistance in countless ways are appreciated; I am sure that readers will be glad that we will continue to have the benefits of his brilliant talents.

The staff list on page one encompasses an extraordinary galaxy of abilities. Each member deserves a comprehensive profile of accomplishments, but space prevents such luxury in 96 pages. Included are noted irisarians, scientists and journalists. I am honored to work with each. Special thanks this issue go to Bee Warburton and Betty Wood for the material solicited that demonstrates the universality of the iris.

A super-size thank you goes to Phil Williams, who agreed to serve on the Editorial Committee. As he reads this, he will discover that he has been named, by special vote of AIS Directors, to be *Bulletin's* Managing Editor. When his help was needed to insure that the magazine could reach the membership on time, Phil was extraordinary with the complex negotiations involved. Because he served in the capacity of managing editor, a joint effort using the services of both Agnihotra Press, Inc. and Williams Printing Co. resulted in a timely Bulletin.

In addition to timeliness, balanced content is a primary consideration. A poll of Regional Vice Presidents (thanks to many for cooperation and polling of their members) has advised the staff as to the content the membership desires. We will try to follow this advice; see the next issue for more details. Also, remember that articles and black and white photographs will be appreciated. We will also be glad to hear from readers with comments and suggestions. Phone numbers, as well as addresses, are shown on page one for the Editor-in-Chief and Advertising Editor.

Who are Bulletin's readers? When RVPs were surveyed for the topic interest inventory, we also requested their estimations relevant to members. A compendium of results of attitudes, ages and interests showed, for instance, that only an estimated 1.6% of members are full time commercial growers and/or hybridizers. About 6.8% are part-time commercial irisarians and 3.1% are scientists. In the opinions of the RVPs responding, 50% of members may be active in some local or regional iris events, about 9.6% are involved on a national level and at least 32.5% (some say much more) read the Bulletin as the only benefit of membership. What an awesome responsibility for the staff! We will do our best, and I will end this editorial now, remembering the words of Alexander Pope on verbosity, "Words are like leaves and where they most abound, much fruit of sense beneath is rarely found."



### THE NAME GAME

PLAYFUL VARIETY NAMES from the 1978 Registrations and Introductions booklet include INTY GREYSHUN (Varigay Gardens, NE), DON'T NEGLECTA (Tell's Iris Garden, UT), BEE FUDDLED (Les Peterson, UT) and READY MAID (Dr. O. Currier McEwen, ME). Then there's TU TU MUCH (J. M. Gibson, CA), and it's FUNTASTIC (Gordon Plough, WA), but GOOD KNIGHT (Joseph Ghio, CA).

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## *Gifts to The AIS*

Sept. 1, 1979 to Feb. 1, 1979

### MEMORIAL GIFTS FOR:

MRS. CLAXTON McCRUMMEN

Mrs. Vernon H. Keesee (TX)

HERMAN BURGE

Mrs. Vernon H. Keesee

WILLIAM T. BLEDSOE

Louisville Area Iris Society (KY)

Mrs. Bernard Lowenstein (NM)

J. CLARKE COSGROVE

Louisville Area Iris Society

Mrs. Bernard Lowenstein

TELL MUHLSTEIN

\*AIS Region 14

QUAY BAUMAN

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Wolford (TX)

Evalyn Story (TN)

Evalyn Callen (TN)

### GIFTS HONORING:

EDITH AND LEON WOLFORD

Raymond & Lucille Miller (TN)

ADOLPH J. VOGT

Raymond & Lucille Miller

MRS. A. F. ALLEN

Memphis Area Iris Society (TN)

MRS. LUTHER MARTIN

Raymond & Lucille Miller

### OTHER GIFTS:

\*Delaware Valley Iris Society (PA)

\*Bill Johnson (KS)

Semo Iris Society (MO)

Philip Edinger (CA)

Dorothy M. Pabst (NM)

Mrs. F. C. O'Kelly (NM)

AIS Region 7

Erabelle Eiffert (NM)

Lucille McKinley (NM)

Tulsa Area Iris Society (OK)

New Braunfels Iris Society (TX)

AIS Region 24

AIS Region 17

Iris Society of Minnesota (MN)

AIS Region 23

North Plains Iris Society (TX)

Pittsburgh Iris & Daylily Soc. (PA)

AIS Region 14 Convention Comm.

Robert Schreiner (OR)

John E. Griffin (SD)

Iris Society of Dallas (TX)

Marie Caillet (TX)

\*Special Purpose Gift

# *Gleanings*

## **Tall Bearded**

*Southern California Iris Society "Iris Notes," Summer 1977*

**Lura Roach:** What are the ten irises I'd really like to have? At this point in time, they must be those that are still to be introduced. As time runs out, I want to see more and more of the new — hoping they will show improvement over existing varieties, but in general this rarely proves to be true.

Each year . . . new or nearly new irises are planted, and each year there are more disappointments than pleasures. Perhaps I want too much. But, I ask you, is it too much to ask for vigor, branching, and bud count? We go year after year making excuses. Possibly it is the unusual year when everything performs better than expected. Still, there are irises that are well branched, have good bud count and above all have sufficient vigor to perform well year after year — regardless of the weather. What good is the most beautiful flower if the plant won't grow, or if there are so few buds that it is here today and gone tomorrow? Now, to get off the soap-box!

There were three varieties of the same height and color combination, i.e. yellow standards and yellow-banded white falls. BICENTENNIAL (Ghio '76) has strong healthy blue-green foliage and makes good increase. The first stalk, 40 inches tall, came from a lateral fan and had just one high branch with a total of four buds. The large flower has erect standards with lateral surfaces flaring backwards to give a domed effect. The ruffled falls flare downward about 15° from horizontal. The stalk coming from the mother rhizome has not bloomed. It is considerably shorter, but it does have two branches plus a spur.

The first stalk of JOYCE TERRY (Muhlestein '74) must have been affected by the weather . . . it bloomed very early with little or no branching. The tightly swirled yellow standards stayed in a conical position and the yellow-backed falls never fell sufficiently to see their upper surfaces. In mid-April three more stalks, 36 inches in height, bloomed. Each had three branches plus the terminal and seven buds. There was only slight ruffling. Falls flared almost horizontally. The large flower seemed brighter than either BICENTENNIAL or GOLDEN SPARKLER. Oh yes, I just noticed a new bloom stalk pushing upwards, but there are three increases for next year.

GOLDEN SPARKLER (Hamner '76) has the best vigor of the three. There were four bloom stalks each having two rather high branches and good bud count. This was the most lacy. There was a slight pattern about the orange-yellow beard, and the hafts had a much deeper blush of orange-yellow. Its falls flare much the same as BICENTENNIAL, though possibly are not quite as wide. All of the above have a sparkling quality, good substance, and individual flowers that last and last.

We have waited a long time for a good brown. Not since GINGERSNAP have I seen the improvement found in MALAYSIA (Ghio '76). This henna-brown has ruffled domed standards and wide, gracefully flaring, ruffled falls. There is a small blaze of tan just beneath the bright orange beard. Texture is like velvet, and the flower does not fade until it begins to fold. The 38-inch stalk has only one fault, the two branches are a little high. Bud count and increase are excellent

Want a show stalk? Try DUTCH TREAT (Steinhauer '76). This has oyster white domed and ruffled standards, and the creamy yellow falls with just a hint of green are smoothly blushed yellow at the hafts. Beard is yellow. The 34-inch stalk carries three perfectly spaced candelabra branches plus a spur. Bud count isn't as good as I would like, so pray that Lady Luck is with you at show time, and you will have a winner.

LADY MARIE (Muhlestein '75) is a beautifully branched fluted white with lots of lace and a white-tipped soft red beard. Stalks are 36 inches. Individual flowers are beautifully formed and have lots of glitter. With the exception of the terminal, all bud sockets are single. However, the individual flowers last a week, and if the show is scheduled just right you may have Queen of Show with four open blooms. Puts up multiple bloom stalks and yet leaves lots of increase.

VANITY (Hager '75) is a luscious pink with no salmon influence. Flowers are of medium size, but oh, there are so many bloom stalks you begin to worry that it may bloom out. It doesn't. This pink-bearded beauty has the best branching and bud count I've ever seen in this color range. It should be good — with parents like CHERUB CHOIR and PINK TAFFETA. It has taken the best qualities from each parent.

LOVELY LILAC (Niswonger '75) is a 30-inch lovely lilac with a tangerine beard. Has three well-spaced branches that carry flowers with lacy domed standards and ruffled flaring falls that are tipped with lace. It is reminiscent of Schreiner's GRAND WALTZ, but there is a richness to the pinkish lilac coloring that makes it stand apart. Bud count and increase are excellent.

DIGNITARY (Ghio '76) is a tall (40 inches) dark blue with very little violet influence. The wide petaled large flowers have domed ruffled standards and ruffled flaring falls that touch at the hafts. It is absolutely clean, and its velvety texture belies its leathery substance. There are three well-spaced branches that carry eleven well-timed buds. Beard is only a shade lighter than the flower. Its foliage is super, and vigor is extraordinary. Joe can be very proud of this flower.

ILLINI MOON (Varner '76) is a creamy white with a touch of pale lemon at the hafts and a pale lemon beard. The round falls are nearly horizontal and slightly ruffled. The domed standards have some ruffling, too. It really isn't fair to judge a variety from the east on a first-year plant. Though the plant is vigorous, the one bloom stalk has only two branches and all of the bud sockets except the terminal are single. Maybe next year when it is acclimated, its bud count and branching will improve.

LUAU (Ghio '76) is a sib of MALAYSIA. The form of the flowers and height of the stalks are the same. Here we have a rosy mulberry with a tangerine beard. Branching and bud count are excellent. As it was growing I thought it was quite vigorous. However, the six fans produced from a single rhizome are all blooming. Just hope it will put on some increase on some of the spent bloom stalks. It is much too nice a flower to lose.

### *Region 22 News, Summer 1977*

EILEEN HARRISON: In every garden in the Hot Springs area where they were grown, LORD BALTIMORE and MYSTIQUE were simply outstanding this year. In addition to these two in our garden, we would add STEP CHILD, IRISH SPRING, GRECIAN GOWN, and CHARMED CIRCLE — each of them going on through nearly the entire bloom season.

OTIS FARRINGTON: We live on ten acres, so not being crowded for space we seldom throw an iris away, but just enlarge the garden at the cost of the lawn when new

introductions are planted. I have decided that an iris is not bad just because it is old, nor necessarily good just because it is new.

RON MULLIN: . . . ACTRESS (Keppel) was among the first to start blooming, and it had a long bloom season. This has outstanding form and heavy substance. The flowers are wisteria, according to Keith's description and they sport tangerine tipped beards. The whole plant was four-star, from vigor to beauty.

ANTIQUE TAPESTRY (Rudolph) leads the list of '75 introductions, and it was quite a hit when I entered it in the Tulsa show. It is a rose and gold blend according to the hybridizer, but to me it is a brown blend with lots of ruffles and good form . . . . CARAMBA (Keppel) was tall and elegant in yellow with plicata marks on the falls. Very fine form, very good branching, and every bit as good as I had heard. GHOST STORY (Ghio) is a grayish color with gold infused on the hafts and midribs. Very strange, but very beautiful, with all the things we look for in a garden flower. This one probably should have been called Hypnotic because it really can cast a spell over you.

GOLD TRIMMINGS (Schreiners) is white with drippings of gold all over. This year the falls were a little long, but the substance was like leather and the color is appealing . . . . MYSTIQUE (Ghio) was fantastic again . . . the heavily substanced flowers were displayed on well branched stalks which were much more sturdy than the usual in this year of flimsy stalks . . . . OLD FLAME (Ghio) . . . in spite of the spectacular performance of many others, this one was above all of them. The creamy white flowers with the tiny gold edge and the bright reddish beard are pictures of perfection. The ruffling is just right to show off the edging, and the substance is just right to keep the flowers in good shape for days. The number of buds was enough to keep blooms coming for days on end, and the branching displayed a minimum of two open flowers on every stalk.

PEEK A BLUE (Sexton) started the season. This plicata is different in that most of the coloring is in the middle portions of the flowers. A definite blue and white with dark blue style arms peeking through. RANCHO ROSE (Gibson) is one of the most beautiful plicatas I've ever seen. The ground color is pink with reddish plicata markings. The form is good, and the substance, heavy. A very fine flower. RISQUE (Gatty) is white with a red beard, but this one has a quality that sets it apart from others in this color class.

Among the other varieties of recent vintage, BLUE LUSTER (O. Brown) was again so pretty that it was breathtaking. The bright blue beards on the deep blue petals are a sight to behold. A very, very good iris . . . . LADY DAWN (Plough) was one that caught my eye in Gordon's garden in 1972 . . . this again was something to see. In the so-called pink and blue classes, this one has a much larger flower than most with a precise edging on the falls that makes the color contrast seem sharper. A good one. MIDNIGHT SPECIAL (Sexton) did it again . . . it is the one which causes the non iris growers in this town to stop and ask questions. Three open flowers on every stalk and a few days later every placement again has three open flowers. A real delight to the show-conscious irisarian. Dark, velvety flowers that are very fine . . . . PAGAN (Dunn) is the brightest, shiniest flower in the garden when the sun hits it. So many colors seem to shine forth from this one that is the same color as the older MARTEL. PRETTY KAREN (Hamblen) is my favorite of all the medium orchid flowers available. This has excellent form and heavy substance.

# Seed Distribution In Japan

Hubert A. Fischer, Illinois

*Editor's note: Do you have any extra bearded iris seeds? If so, please contribute them to a super-successful program that is spreading their joy and beauty across Japan. Contact Hubert A. Fisher, 16 W. 331 63rd Street, Hinsdale, IL 60521.*

Dr. Shuchi Hirao, with whom I had been working, suggested that a program of iris seed distribution, in view of the successful program of *hemerocallis* seed distribution in Japan, would meet the need of increasing interest in bearded irises there. I requested iris seeds from AIS members, and generous response enabled me to send out a fairly large amount of tall bearded and dwarf seeds.

*Garden Life* magazine printed a notice that anyone interested could request free seeds from Dr. Hirao, who was distributing them. I had promised to furnish the seeds but had not realized how great the demand would be.

I had been in touch with Dr. Hirao constantly but was anxious to meet with him again, so when Ed Varnum told me that he would be in Japan for some time and that Emilee would be going over, I decided to join her.

We left San Francisco by way of the arctic route, non-stop to Tokyo, where we met Ed and an hour later took off for Hong Kong. It was a long flight. After exciting days in Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan, we went to Japan. In Osaka I renewed my acquaintance with Dr. Akira Horinaka, whom I had met some years ago when I gave a program in Nishinomiya City on bearded irises and *hemerocallis*.

Though he was ill, I was able to visit his home and family. He had written a book about irises which was being published, and for which I was able to furnish a number of Kodachrome slides. Also, he has written the "Iris Laevigata in Japan" for *The World of Irises*. It was good to meet with him again and enjoy his hospitality.

I went on to Tokyo where I met with Dr. Shuchi Hirao and Mr. Kamo, who has a large nursery at Kakegawa near Mt. Fujii; it was at his home that we stayed when Marie and I were there some years ago. We had some busy days together, visiting various places of interest including famous nurseries. I learned more about the iris program; the requests for seeds were far beyond expectations. Almost 600 packets were sent out, with requests coming from Hokkaido in the north, to Okinawa in the south. A small amount were from city dwellers but most from distant villages and isolated places; about forty percent of the requests were from women.

Many letters of appreciation have already been received, some with color photos of the flowers. A letter from a lady who lives in Yamaguchi, on the west end of Honshu, wrote, "My garden is close to the sea with lovely mild climate. I photographed ten irises, all from seeds sowed in March 1977. It has been days of thrills to see the flowers for the first time, those I have crossed have been swelling on the pods is again a new thrill for me." Each of the color photos was mounted, with descriptions of height of fan and stalk and time of bloom. They had bloomed in 1978, and the photos showed some interesting flowers.

From Nagoya, a lady writes about her first flower, "It is a very big flower and every passer-by of my garden asks the name. I have been raising many plants which is my pleasure. I forget all sorts of evil when I watch a flower."

At the northern end of Honshu where the climate is cool, is a garden with five hundred tall bearded varieties. One grower has already sent a seedling to Florence, Italy, for the International Iris Competition there. There should be more reports about the bloom this year and additional requests for seeds.

Last year there were second requests and, though no mention had been made about postage, most letters had stamps enclosed. There is no doubt about the success of the program. My concern is that additional requests will not be fulfilled; therefore, anyone having additional seeds, please send them in.

After Tokyo, I went back to Osaka where I met with the Varnums. We had a car with a guide and we toured the Inland Sea area, getting places where tourists are seldom seen. It was an exciting trip.

## AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES

Annual .....	\$ 7.50	Sustaining .....	\$ 15.00
Triennial .....	18.75	Research .....	37.50
Family .....	9.00	Life .....	150.00
Family Triennial .....	22.00	Family Life .....	187.50
Youth member: with others of family as members .....			1.50
Youth member: with no others of family as members .....			2.50

## SECTION DUES

Send dues, making check payable to the American Iris Society, to Mr. Ronald Mullin, Route 3, Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058.

	Japanese	Median	Rebloomer	Siberian	Spuria
Single Annual	\$2.00	\$ 2.50	\$ 3.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00
Single Triennial	5.00	6.25	7.50	5.00	5.00
Family Annual	2.50	2.75	4.00	2.50	2.50
Family Triennial	6.00	7.50	10.00	6.00	6.00
Single Annual Supporting		3.75			
Family Annual Supporting		6.25			
Single Annual Sustaining	3.00	6.25	5.00		3.00
Family Annual Sustaining		9.50			
Single Life		50.00	50.00	50.00	30.00
Family Life		62.00	60.00	60.00	

IMPORTANT: Section dues, if paid through AIS, MUST be for the same duration as your AIS dues. AIS FAMILY member desiring SINGLE Section membership, PLEASE indicate which person is applying for Section membership.

## THE STORY BEHIND . . . ITSA GIRL

Hybridizers have been asked to explain the story behind their unusual variety names and BULLETIN will print some of the most intriguing.

George Slade wrote, "There are two children in my family, my brother and I. My wife and I have two sons and my brother has two sons. My brother has one grandchild, a boy, and we have two grandchildren, both boys. My wife, Helen, has always wanted a girl in the family, one reason being so that she could make fancy little clothes for her. Our latest grandson had been born in late April, just before iris bloom season. One day in May I came into the house and told Helen that I would like to show her one of my new children in the seedling patch. She said, 'I suppose it's a boy, too?' Thinking of its bright pink color, I answered immediately, 'No — ITSA GIRL.' So the name stuck."

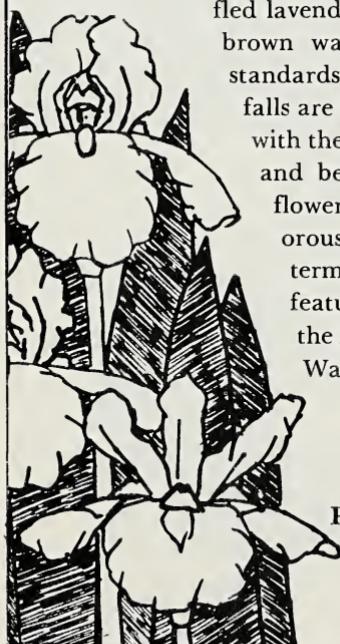
# *Pacific Coast*

## *Hybridizers*

### **Introduces**

ANGEL'S ROBES (Bryce Williamson '79) will vary in coloring, according to the season, from a warm cream-white to a cream with infusions and washes of deep, rich country-cream through the midribs and spilling over the hafts and across the falls. The flowers are finished with a thin halo of lemon lace around the rounded, ruffled petals. Easy growing and free blooming plants produce three and four branches, terminal and double buds on 34-inch stalks. Early to midseason. Co-introduced by Cordon Bleu Farms. Islands of Light X Orchid Skies. .... \$25.00

ARMISTICE (Bryce Williamson '79) represents a refinement in coloring in my continuing quest for blends. The color saturation is rich and full in this clean, smooth and ruffled lavender-plum with heavy infusions of plum-brown washed through the fluted and closed standards. The flared, ruffled lavender-plum falls are circled with wide bands of plum-brown with the coloring silvered at the clean shoulders and beneath the yellow-orange beards. The flowers have rigid substance, and the vigorous plants produce three branches and terminal with double buds. Armistice is featured in a color centerfold in this issue of the *Bulletin*. Midseason. Deja Vu X Louise Watts. HC '78. .... \$25.00



Bryce Williamson's  
**PACIFIC COAST HYBRIDIZERS**

P.O. Box 972  
Campbell, California 95008  
*Catalogue on Request*



PORTRAIT OF LARRIE (Gaulter '79)

25.00

Named for the Gaulters' daughter, Larrie June

OUR 51st YEAR  
CATALOG  
In Full Color  
\$1.00

then deductible from  
your first catalog order



# *Pacific Coast Hybridizers*



**ARMISTICE**  
(Bryce Williamson 1979)

**Post Office Box 972  
Campbell, California 95008**

*See our ad in this issue for descriptions.*

CORAL DAWN \$25.00  
(Vernon Wood 1979)

Another beautiful iris selected from Vernon Wood's seedling patch. Yummy is a word that has often been used to describe this fine flower. The color is a smooth coral-pink shading slightly lighter in the center of the falls. The beard is a complimentary tangerine. The overall effect is reminiscent of a freshly sliced cantalope. Petals are ruffled and there is a touch of lace at the edge of the falls. Fine show type branching and three buds per socket insure a long bloom. Inherited the fine growing habits of its parents. 34". Mid to late season. Seedling #75-51. Flaming Arrow X Princess.

STAGE DOOR \$25.00  
(Glenn F. Corlew 1979)

A stately and striking iris in an elusive blending of pink and lavender with a lighter area in the center of the falls. A tangerine-pink beard completes the refined color combination. This lightly ruffled flower is for those who appreciate the subtle rather than the flamboyant. A very strong grower that here at Cherry Lane often produces three bloom stalks on a first year clump. Starts blooming early in the season and continues well into late midseason. Fine branching and transmits this quality to its seedlings. 34". Early to midseason. Seedling #841-5A. Orchid Wings X Grand Romance.

Order from this Ad  
including \$1.50  
shipping charge  
Or  
send 25¢ for catalog

NEW FOR 1979 FROM

The Cherry Lane Gardens of

GLENN F. CORLEW

2988 Cherry Lane  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
Phone (415) 932-1998

# **GUEST IRIS REQUEST**

*Louise Bellagamba, Guest Iris Chairman 1981*

Region 18 (Missouri and Kansas) will host the 1981 American Iris Society Convention, with headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri. The Guest Iris Committee invites hybridizers to send guest plants of recent introductions and seedlings under serious consideration for introduction. Please observe these guidelines —

1. Please do not send more than a total of fifty plants per hybridizer.
2. Guest rhizomes will be accepted between July 10 and August 20, 1979.
3. All official guest irises must be sent to: Louise Bellagamba, 11431 Old St. Charles Rd., Bridgeton, Missouri 63044.
4. The following information should accompany each plant:
  - A. Hybridizer's name and address
  - B. Name (or number) of the variety
  - C. Type of iris
  - D. Height, color and bloom season
  - E. Year of introduction
5. When guest seedlings are named before the convention, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman before Nov. 1, 1980, so that changes can be made on labels and guest listings.
6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors listing the garden locations of plants. Soon after the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding disposition of plants. Failure to reply by July 1, 1981 will be considered as an order to destroy all stock in question. All other guest plants will be returned postpaid except to foreign addresses and except for irises introduced prior to 1976.
7. The Convention Committee and Guest Iris Committee will exercise all precaution to see that no plant is traded, sold, seed set, or pollen used.
8. The Guest Iris Committee is not responsible for losses beyond its control. Responsibility of the Guest Iris Committee extends only to plants sent through the Guest Iris Chairman. Only those plants received July 10 through Aug. 20 will be listed in the convention booklet.

Region 18 is happy to extend this invitation and hopes everyone will come to see the irises bloom. It will be too late to see dwarfs, but expect to see a few late IBs, ABs and, hopefully, some early Siberians. TB season, however, is what it's all about here in mid-May.

St. Louis, the "Gateway" city, is big and beautiful with lots to see other than irises, and for those who can spare a little extra time, the Ozarks are well worth it. "Meet me in St. Louis!"

★ ★

## **GUEST IRISES: OKLAHOMA '80!**

Until September 15, we will welcome more guest irises for the 1980 AIS Convention. Because these guests will be blooming on one-year plants, we will accept two rhizomes per garden if so designated. For shipping instructions, please refer to page 46 of the Spring 1978 *Bulletin*. Thank you.

Dorothy Howard, Chairman Guest Iris Committee

226 E. 20th St., Tulsa, OK 74119

Telephone (918) 582-4932

★ ★



# YOUTH-IEWS

JAYNE RITCHIE, *Youth Chairman*

ROSALIE BEASLEY, *Youth Editor*

R.D. #1, Box 43, Leonardtown, MD. 20560

## *Have You Seed . . .*

*Michelle Ritchie*

1713 Camas Ave., N.E., Renton, WA 98055

So you saved some iris seeds and now you don't know what to do with them. You've stuffed them in a drawer, maybe, thinking that one of these days you will plant them . . . somewhere. Well dig them out and start planting!

Different deeds for different seeds, so first you need to know what KIND of iris seeds you have. Bearded? Siberian? Spuria? Japanese? If you have more than one kind, keep them separate, because you may need to treat them differently.

The next question concerns space — where shall I plant them? If you are very fortunate, you may have some vacant ground outside to use, but many people are limited in the amount of unused garden space available to tie up for a few years with iris seeds. And young people sometimes find that Dad or Mom wants that space for rose bushes or cumquats or razzleberries. So that brings us to containers of some kind. Many people swear by clay pots or styrofoam. I prefer something CHEAP, preferably free. Therefore, I recommend cans, jars or used plastic jugs as containers. I like the cans with snap-on lids that coffee and nuts sometimes come in. (Of course, if you have lots of seeds, you might get sick from eating so many nuts. It's good excuse to give a party before seed planting time.) But any kind of clean can with the lid removed would be fine. Punch a few holes in the bottom of the can for drainage, and you are in business. The type of can opener used for juice cans is good for making the holes.

Many kinds of seeds need a period of coolness before they will sprout. Bearded iris seeds need a few weeks of near freezing temperatures if they are to sprout (or germinate) well. A word about this before we go on: some people put the seeds on damp paper towels, then wrap the seeded towels in foil or in plastic, and store the resulting packets in the refrigerator for 3 or 4 months. This is fine if you have an understanding mother. But not *all* mothers can tolerate that "junk" in their nice refrigerator for 3 months. So *unless* you live in a climate where the winters are not cool enough to give you *at least* 6 to 8 weeks of near freezing temperatures, I recommend that you plant the seeds in the cans and set the cans *outside*.

Bearded irises seem to germinate better if the seeds are soaked in water for a few days before planting. Regular garden soil will probably do for the bearded iris seeds. If the soil is very sandy, you will need to add peat or compost. If the soil is heavy clay, add some compost and sand. Put some small rocks or pieces of

broken flower pot or something similar in the bottom of the can to keep the soil from falling out of the holes that you punched. Fill the can  $\frac{3}{4}$  full with soil. Now put the seeds on top of the soil. (The seeds can be quite close together.) Cover the seeds with  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " of soil and press down. Water well. Put a label on the can so that you will know what you planted in there, and you are all set to put the can outside.

Here is where the cans with the plastic lids come in handy. You can write your "label" on the inside of the plastic lids with a "Magic" marker, snap the lid on, and you won't need to worry about watering the cans for a long time, or about the neighborhood cats being tempted to make a rest stop on your iris seeds. If you don't have the plastic lids, you will need to cover the cans with a board or a piece of heavy cardboard held down with a rock. After the period of cold weather, the soil needs to be kept damp until you are ready to plant the seedlings. Bearded iris seeds germinate best when temperatures are around 45 degrees in the spring, so uncover your cans and watch closely when the temperature gets into the forties.

Siberian irises are very easy to grow from seed. They do not need a period of coolness. In fact, the seeds will often sprout if placed in a jar of water on your dresser. If you try this, watch carefully for the roots to appear, so that the seedlings can be planted right away. (An accidentally spilled container of Siberian seeds once resulted in my Philodendron having a fine grassy ground cover.) Or you can grow them in cans like the bearded types.

Louisiana iris seeds also do not need any period of cold. To grow them, try this: put the seeds in the bottom of an old jelly jar; add about 2" of soil; fill the jar with water and set it near (but not in) a window. By the time the water evaporates, many seeds will have sprouted and will be ready for planting.

Spuria iris seeds do not need as much coolness as bearded irises do. They need only 4 to 8 weeks of cool weather and will germinate at room temperature on your window sill if you want to bring them inside. In fact, if you have a fresh seedpod and can plant the seed while it is still a bit green and plump, no period of cold is needed. The seeds will sprout almost right away. The seedlings can then be planted in the garden in the fall. Don't try this if your winters are cold though, because the tiny seedlings might not live through the winter.

For best results, use fresh Japanese iris seed. Use a clay soil and manure, if possible. Or use lots of peat moss. A plastic container is good. My mother used a small plastic tub which she sets out in her enclosed back porch where the temperatures are near freezing in the winter. Japanese seeds need a period of cold, and they need to be kept rather wet. They germinate at about 65 degrees, so bringing the containers inside in the early spring is a good idea. (See *Youth-Views*, Winter, 1978, for further information.)

The only other type of iris that I have tried to grow from seed is the Pacific Coast native. They sprout easily, but don't like to be moved afterwards. So it is best for the beginner to plant these seeds in the ground right where you want them to grow. If they like your climate, you are in for a treat. Try various spots around the yard to see if you can find a place that they will like.

Okay, now you know what to do with those seeds you saved. If you didn't save any, but would like to try growing some anyway, write to me, and I'll find some seed for you. It's lots of fun to try, and who knows? You might find something special among the seedlings!

## APPROVED AFFILIATES FOR 1979

**REGION 1** CONNECTICUT IRIS SOCIETY – Pres. Miss Shirley Varmette, 203 Lakeview Terr., New Haven, CT 06515

**MAIN IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Ann Webb, Waterford, ME 04088

**REGION 2** EMPIRE STATE IRIS SOCIETY – Pres. Mr. Lynn Carmer, 419 Trimmer Rd., Spencerport, NY 14559

**REGION 3** DELAWARE VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY – Pres. Mr Ron Thoman, 2814 Kennedy Rd., Talleybrook, Wilmington, DE 19810

**REGION 4** FRANCIS SCOTT KEY IRIS SOCIETY – Pres. Mrs. Thomas Simpson, 200 Ridgemeade Rd., Baltimore, MD 21210

**REGION 5** GEORGIA IRIS SOCIETY – Pres. Mrs. Robert Terpening, P.O. Box 314, Fairburn, GA 30213

**OCONEE VALLEY IRIS CLUB** – Pres. Mrs. C. E. Yearwood, Rt. 3, Box 19, Milledgeville, GA 31061

**FLORIDA IRIS SOCIETY (new)** – Pres. Mrs. Pat Irvin, 4127 Northgate Dr., Kissimee, FL 32741

**SOUTH CAROLINA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. W. T. Brooks, 7027 Fairmont Dr., Columbia, SC 29209

**REGION 6** NORTH EASTERN INDIANA IRIS SOCIETY – Pres. Mrs. Henry Storey, Rt. 4, Huntington, IN 46750

**GRAND VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Stuart Loveless, 2033 Jerome, S.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49507

**CENTRAL MICHIGAN IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Lila Howland, 206 Gale St., Morrice, MI 48857

**AKRON AREA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. William Rhodes, 646 Yerrick Rd., Akron, OH 44312

**CENTRAL OHIO IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Lillian Davis

**MIAMI VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Dave Rawlins, 5663 Markey Rd. Dayton, OH 45415

**NORTH EAST OHIO IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Miss Charlotte Voss, 7528 Hoertz Rd., Parma, Ohio 44134

**REGION 7** BLUE GRASS IRIS SOCIETY – Pres. Mr. Robert H. Cosby, 311 Manhattan Dr., Lexington, KY 40505

**MID STATE IRIS ASSOCIATION** – Pres. Mr. J. L. Christopher, 1522 Mercury Blvd., Murfreesboro, TN 37130

**TENNESSEE VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. M. A. Luna, Lewisburg, TN 37091

**TWIN STATES IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Elmer Winfree, 113 Lealand Dr., Lebanon, TN 37087

**REGION 8** WISCONSIN IRIS SOCIETY – Pres. Mr. Melvin Bausch, 11530 Laguna Dr. 21 W, Mequon, WI 53092

**REGION 9** SOUTHERN ILLINOIS IRIS SOCIETY – Pres. Mr. Orville Dickhaut, P.O. Box 27, Carbinville, IL 62626

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Florence Stout, 150 N. Main St., Lombard, IL 60148

**REGION 10** No Affiliates

**REGION 11** No Reports

**REGION 12** UTAH IRIS SOCIETY – Pres. Mr. Hyram L. Ames, 3695 S. 2110 East Salt Lake City, UT 84119

**REGION 13** PIERCE COUNTY IRIS SOCIETY – Pres. M's. Evelyn Grubb, 507 S. 40th, Tacoma, WA 98408

**WALLA WALLA IRIS CLUB** – Pres. Mr. Bob Cripe, 618 School Ave., Walla Walla, WA 99362

**REGION 14** **CENTRAL VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Melba Beirlaqua, 7525 Oak Creek Dr., Stockton, CA 95207

**CLARA B. REES IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Hal Mattos, 367 Men-haden Ct., Foster City, CA 94404

**FRESNO IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Richard Fiori, 1411 N. Harrison Fresno, CA 93728

**MONTEREY BAY IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Matt Hardy, 18828 Vierra Cyn Rd., Salinas, CA 93907

**MT. DIABLO IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Rik Rasmussen, 452 East 1 St. Benicia, CA 94510

**SIDNEY B. MITCHELL IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Jim McWhirter, 22549 Center St., Hayward, CA 94541

**SANTA ROSA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Ray Morris. P. O. Box 123, Windsor, CA 95492

**REDWOOD IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Jean Near, 14909 Tomki Rd., Redwood Valley, CA 95470

**SOUTHERN NEVADA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Jack Cochran, 272 Aztec La., Henderson, NV 89015

**REGION 15** **DESERT IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Elmer Cain, 7127 N. 32nd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85021

**TUCSON AREA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Marian Rogers, 4362 E. La Cienega, Tucson, AZ 85712

**SUN COUNTRY IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Bruce Smith, 715 E. Osborn Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85014

**INLAND IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Robert Hubley, 9230 Colorado Ave., Riverside, CA 92503

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Lewis Pres-tage, 1700 Cottonwood Rd., Bakersfield, CA 93307

**SAN DIEGO-IMPERIAL CO. IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Paul Runde, 4670 Twain Ave., San Diego, CA 92120

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Virginia Del Judge, 19860 Archwood St., Canoga Park, CA 91306

**REGION 16** No Affiliates

**REGION 17** **EL PASO IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Luella K. Stopani, 5317 Yvette Ave., El Paso, TX 79924

**NEW BRAUNFELS IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Fred Leonard, P.O. Box 52, San Marcos, TX 78660

**NORTH PLAINS IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Louise Nichols, 2703 Harrison, Amarillo, TX 79109

**SOUTH PLAINS IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Charles Howard, 3604 43rd St., Lubbock, TX 79413

**TEXORAMA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Ira Bush, Rt. 2, Denison, TX 75020

**REGION 18** **BOOTHILL IRIS CLUB** – Pres. Mrs. Jonel Bell, P.O. Box 1235, Dodge City, KS 67801

**GARDEN CITY IRIS CLUB** – Pres. Mrs. Edward Tomchak, 2501 N. 6th St., Garden City, KS 67846

**GREATER KANSAS CITY AREA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Evelyn Minnick

**HI PLAINS IRIS CLUB** – Pres. Mrs. Floyd Kemp, Goodland, KS 67735

**HUTCHINSON IRIS CLUB** – Pres. Mr. Darrell Luman, 7104 N. Monroe, Hutchinson, KS 67501

**PARSONS AREA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Phyllis Harrington, 3018 Dirr, Parsons, KS 67357

**WICHITA AREA IRIS CLUB** – Pres. Mr. Rick Bjorkland, 417 S. Richmond, Wichita, KS 67213

**GREATER ST. LOUIS IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Betty Bohrer, 1 Summer Ct., O'Fallon, MO 63366

**JEFFCO IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. John Felgate, Rt. 3, Box 360, Festus, MO 63028

**MINERAL AREA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Russ Wurl, Maryland Heights, MO 63043

**SEMCO IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Chester Blaylock, 108 S. West End Blvd., Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

**TRI-STATE IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Ben Johnstone, Rt. 1, Box 155, Anderson, MO 64831

**WASHINGTON IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Harry Boyd, Rt. 1, Box 138, Cedar Hills, MO 63016

*REGION 19* No Report

*REGION 20* No Affiliates

**REGION 21** **ELKHORN VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Dorothy Johnson, 2602 Madison Ave., Norfolk, NE 68701

**GREATER OMAHA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. Richard Kohout, 6225 "H" St., Omaha, NE 68117

**SIOUX FALLS IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mr. John E. Griffith, 1712 Edgewood, Sioux Falls, SD 57103

*REGION 22* **TULSA AREA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. R. W. Heathcote, Mounds, OK 74047

*REGION 23* **ALBUQUERQUE ARIL SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Howard Shockey, 4611 Rio Grande La. N.W., Albuquerque, NM 87105

**THE MESILLA VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Anne Wright, Rt. 2, Box 343 D, Los Cruces, NM 88001

**THE NEW MEXICO IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. L. E. Roberts, 8615 La Sala Guande N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87111

*REGION 24* **GADSEN METRO IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Ruth Fletcher, Rt. 2, Box 414, Gadsen, AL 35903

**HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER AIS** – Pres. Mrs. Tom Craig, 1000 Lexington St. S.E., Huntsville, AL 35801

**MARSHALL IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Sarah Scruggs, Rt. 2, Box 217, Guntersville, AL 35976

**NORTH ALABAMA IRIS SOCIETY** – Pres. Mrs. Grady Kennedy, 9610 Todd Mill Rd. S.E., Huntsville, AL 35803

**TWICKENHAM IRIS SOCIETY (Youth)** – Pres. Miss Kristen Gilliam, 2022 Rodgers Dr. N.E., Huntsville, AL 35811

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### THE NAME GAME

Hybridizer Sterling Innerst of Pennsylvania explains that his purpose in breeding irises and methodology in naming them is "independent creativity." Among his unusual names in '78, DEET was named for a character in a favorite book that he reads to his students where he teaches. In the book, Deet was independent with great substance which, he states, "fits the personality of my DEET."

JABBERWOCKY is named for a poem; both iris and poem are "very unconventional, dramatically different." JAMBRIS (sham bree) is named, he thinks, for a French fragrance. VERILY, VERILY has a "chaste, pure feeling" and became the name of a pure white self.

# NOTICE TO AFFILIATES

## REQUIREMENTS FOR AFFILIATION WITH THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

Revised requirements for affiliate status were adopted by the Board of Directors at their November 1978 meetings.

A local iris society may become an affiliate of the American Iris Society upon application to the Regional Vice President who will verify the AIS memberships. The application will then be forwarded to the AIS Chairman of Affiliates. The local society must meet the following requirements

- 1) All officers of the local society must be members of the AIS.
- 2) There must be at least ten AIS members in the local society.
- 3) The date of the society's annual election of officers must be stated.
- 4) The society must participate in the AIS system of registrations and awards and must adhere to AIS show rules.
- 5) The society must state its affiliation with the AIS on show schedules, publications and publicity releases, including when possible an invitation to join the AIS, with appropriate membership information.
- 6) If the above requirements are met, societies with 50% of their members belonging to the AIS will be affiliated without charge. If a society has less than 50% AIS membership, there will be an affiliation fee, currently \$25.
- 7) After having initially qualified, a society must submit annually a list of its officers and members to the RVP of its region, who will verify AIS membership and forward it to the Chairman of Affiliates. Failure to report will result in automatic disqualification.

Deadline dates for applications to be considered by the AIS Chairman of Affiliates are July 25 and January 25. Approved affiliates will be listed in the Spring and Fall issues of the *Bulletin*.

Mrs. Edward Owen  
Chairman, Affiliates & Sections

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## THE NAME GAME

We asked Allan Ensminger, Nebraska, why he named an iris ALMOST GLADYS in '78. He explained, "We set as our first hybridizing goal the creation of an iris that could be named for my wife, Gladys. It seemed appropriate that this iris must be a pink amoena, since Gladys has had a beautiful pink complexion and prematurely white hair almost all of our married life. So, for 22 years, we've been hybridizing for this elusive pink amoena and, finally, along came this attractive one that is good enough for a name, but falls short of the perfection that is desired in the iris to be named Gladys. So . . . ."

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## CHALLENGING EUPHONIA

Say these '78 irises together quickly, five times. ARC LIGHT, CLEAR LIGHT, FREE FLIGHT, GREEN DELIGHT, MIDAS MITE and UPTIGHT CREAM WHITE. Alright? Now try CARDINAL IN FLIGHT, CAPILIGHT, DAWN LIGHT, MAIDEN FLIGHT, MARIE'S DELIGHT, SEA LIGHT and URIAH THE HITTITE. Never trite and out of sight!

# COTTAGE CARDENS PRESENT THE 1979 INTRODUCTIONS . . .

<b>CHIPPENDALE</b> (Donald Denney) TB, VL, 36"	\$25.00
The ruffling and heavy substance of this brown toned iris are reminiscent of the intricate carving that distinguish fine Chippendale furniture. This colorful beauty begins its bloom very late and has the heavy substance to withstand heat. Its basic color is terra cotta, as clay flower pots, brightened by a gold infusion at the hafts and a delicate violet accent below Indian yellow beards. The 8-9 flowers are in balanced proportion on 36" bloomstalks, 3 branches plus terminal. The blossoms are not overly large, but are very fragrant. This is ideal for use in arrangements and mixed bouquets. Sdlg. D 72-136-1: Gala Madrid X Gaulter 68-593: (Laurie x San Leandro)	
<b>GRANDMASTER</b> (Bob Brown), TB, M, 36"	\$25.00
This purple self is the best of many blue-purple seedlings from an outstanding blue seedling out of White King X Royal Gold. This one, using His Lordship, has many flowers on tall, well branched stalks. Medium dark purple self; bronze beards with the outer half tipped purple. Sdlg. 7153: (White King x Royal Gold) X His Lordship.	
<b>LAST DANCE</b> (James McWhirter), TB, M-L, 36"	\$25.00
Sister to the popular Tequila Sunrise but completely different. The upright S. are near pink with peach infusion; pale orchid-lavender F. are decorated with bright tangerine beards. Flowers, large, in perfect proportion to bloomstalks, foliage, etc. S. are straight up with lots of substance to assure that the beauty of the flower will remain until the last dance. Amigo's Guitar X Gaulter Sdlg. 68-593 (Laurie x San Leandro)	
<b>MIDNIGHT LOVE AFFAIR</b> (James McWhirter), TB, M-L, 34"	\$25.00
New and exciting blue toward purple side, very intense coloring. Heavily ruffled flowers on well branched stalks, usually supporting 8 buds. F. are set off by light violet beards, further adding to the illusion of a Midnight Love Affair. Skylab X Dream Lover	
<b>MUTED MELODY</b> (Bob Brown), TB, M, 34"	\$25.00
Well received at the 1978 AIS Convention under Sdlg. 73-20, this creamy tan has a light lavender overlay; cream beards with a lavender tip. Described in Summer 1978 AIS Bulletin as a "pale ivory with a mysterious cast of lavender blue on the falls." A large flower on well branched stalks, a good grower. Sdlg. 7133: ((Mademoiselle x Merry Lynn) x Commentary) x Caro Nome). HC '78	
<b>REGENTS' ROW</b> (Donald Denney), TB, E, 38"	\$25.00
Clear medium blue flowers borne on stately and sturdy stalks as the columns of the grand mansions on Regents' Row. Bloomstalks usually have 4 branches plus terminal and frequently 3 open flowers at a time. Large gentian blue flowers (RHS 94D) are broad, flaring, ruffled and accented by blue-white beards tipped yellow in the throat. Excellent plant habits. Sdlg. D 74-22-3: Pop O Sha X McWhirter 3J71-27: (Sterling Silver X Babbling Brook). HC '78	
<b>SKY JACK</b> (John Nelson), TB, M-L, 35"	\$25.00
A new and exciting neglecta. S. of this beauty are light blue, topping falls of royal blue set off by cream yellow beards. Large flowers, heavy substance and well spaced on sturdy bloomstalks. Wide and ruffled with a long bloom season. Well received at the 1977 AIS Convention in Memphis, 26 votes for its HC. Sdlg. 13-69A: Skywatch X Apropo	

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ADVANCE NOTICE (D. Meek).....	\$25.00
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Pure white standards over mid blue plicata falls. Yellow to orange beard. And what do you get? An amoena plicata you'll want in your garden. Sdlg. B 72-1-3. TB, 34", EM. (Montego Bay sib X Foggy Dew).	
LIME JADE (D. Meek) .....	\$25.00
A sib to Lemon Lyric that has everything: Chrome to yellow-green self. Matching beard. Ruffled yellow-green beauty at its best. Sdlg. G50-7-3. TB, 36", ML. (Cream Taffeta X Pistachio).	
P. T. BARNUM (J. Meek) .....	\$25.00
Buckskin-tan standards that stand slightly open over falls of deep wine-red. Beard is golden bronze. Truly a different color in bicolors. Fancy. Sdlg. J 10-4-9. TB, 36", ML. (Flaming Star X Barcelona).	
DEANNA DARCY (J. Meek) .....	\$25.00
Mauve standards; falls paler mauve, with a precise border same shade as the standards. Self beard tipped tangerine. Ruffled. Fine form. Sdlg. 66-9-2. BB, 24", EM. (Sweetheart Waltz X (Symphonette sib x Symphonette)).	

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# ENSATIN IN 28-CHROMOSOME SIBERIAN IRISES

Kevin Vaughn  
Genetics Section, Texas A & M University

Werckmeister (1960, 1969) reported the occurrence of the anthocyanidin malvidin in the 40-chromosome species *I. chrysographes*, as well as in several other beardless species. In a more thorough analysis of this malvidin in Japanese irises, Tokeda and Hayashi (1964) established the structure of this pigment to be the 3-p-coumarylrutinoside 5 glycoside of malvidin (Fig. 1) and named this particular malvidin glycoside "ensatin." This anthocyanin occurs frequently with the usual anthocyanin of bearded irises, delphinin (Fig. 2) (Harborne 1967).

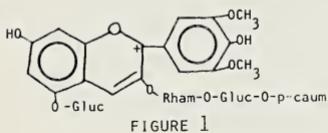


FIGURE 1

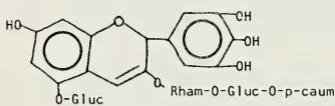


FIGURE 2

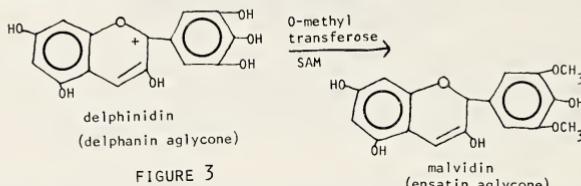
In my pigment studies at Clark University (Vaughn 1976), ensatin from Japanese iris cultivars was used as a reference compound when examining a cultivar of unknown anthocyanin composition. Thus by co-chromatography with the pigment extracts of a Japanese iris, any cultivar containing ensatin could quickly be identified.

The 28-chromosome Siberians have not as yet been investigated for their pigment composition, and because of their relatively simple genetics they are ideal subjects for studies of this type. In these Siberian irises there are five major classes of petal color: blue-purple, red, pink, dull white and clear white. Pigment samples were taken from each of the petal color types and were analyzed for pigment composition by thin-layer chromatography (Vaughn 1976). The following distribution of anthocyanins was found:

CLASS	ANTHOCYANIN
blue-purple	delphinin
red	delphinin and ensatin
pink	ensatin
dull white	ensatin
clear white	no anthocyanin (fallowe swertisin present)

All the petal color classes where ensatin was found are mutations at the *C* locus (Vaughn 1974). (The designation *C* was used simply to denote one of the loci involved in color type in Siberian irises and follows a similar designation in maize.) The author has designated the three ensatin mutants as *c<sup>r</sup>* for the red allele, *c<sup>p</sup>* for the pink allele and *c* for the dull white allele. Since any of the mutant alleles at *C* result in the production of ensatin, the *C* locus is probably responsible for the production of the enzyme O-methyltransferase. This enzyme catalyses the

transfer of the methyl group from SAM (S-adenosyl methionine) to hydroxy flavonoids (Wong 1976). In the case of these Siberian mutants, this enzyme methylates delphinidin (or, probably more correctly, methylates the aglycone form, delphinidin), converting it to ensatin (Fig. 3).



This mutation further distinguishes itself in that it is the first known gene in recessive state that controls the production of methoxylated anthocyanins. All other mutants of this type behave as Mendelian dominants (Harborne 1967).

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#### ATTENTION JUDGES

Inadvertantly, the *Californicae* nominees were not included on the 1978 Judges' Choice Ballot. The following irises are eligible. AIS Judges who wish to vote in this category are asked to select three varieties from those listed below and write their names on a post card marked "Judges' Choice — *Californicae*" and mail them to Ann Dasch, 4831 Dear Park Rd., Owings Mills, Maryland 21117 by June 1, 1979. The extra consideration will, hopefully, compensate for the accidental "orphaning" of these *Californicae* varieties whose merit earned them a place on the ballot.

#### Varieties Eligible for *Californicae* Section — Judges' Choice Ballot

BLUE BIRD CANYON	FLURRY	PIQUE
COUNCILMAN	MAYOR	RESTLESS NATIVE
DEL MAR	MISTY LAVENDER	SANTA RITA
EL CENTRO	NOVIA DEL MAR	SOQUEL COVE
FLAMENCO QUEEN		

## ECHO HILL GARDEN

### Introductions for 1979

**BRIGHT OUTLOOK.** Sdlg. 7374E. (Starring Role X Golden Accent). A vibrant, glowing, non-burning medium yellow self with deeper colored beard. There is no hint of white on the wide, corrugated and crimped semi-flaring falls. Opulent, fluted standards touch and are tightly held. Heavy substance gives this iris a long lasting quality. Gracefully poised flowers are on well-branched stalks. Excellent growth habits. A bright personality iris that is hard to resist. Midseason, 33", HC 1978. .... \$25.00

**MIRRORED SKY.** Sdlg. 6575K. (Involved parentage). Not just another blue, but an exquisite self of sparkling pale blue. The purity of almost true blue, with virtually no lavender influence, makes it outstanding. Large, beautifully formed flowers with extra broad, ruffled and crimped falls and full, fluted standards. White beard. Its blooms are crisp and clean with good substance. A dependable bloomer and strong grower. A most attractive show piece for the garden. Midseason to late, 34". .... \$25.00

**SHEER POETRY.** Sdlg. 6274N. (Starring Role X New Moon). This choice, shimmering blend has beautiful form, fine substance and an enchanting array of colors. Both the lush standards and wide, rounded falls are a mass of ruffles and pleats. The overall effect, when viewed, is a striking caramel buff with infusions of other colors. The domed standards have orchid-lavender midribs and a blush of yellow at the base. The flaring falls have yellow around the beard and a blue-lavender flush below it. They both blend into the caramel buff and have a tiny, lacy, light tan rim to further enhance the interesting panorama of tones. An alluring eye-catcher. Midseason, 35", HC 1978. .... \$25.00

**SPRING FROLIC.** Sdlg. 7574C. (Sea of Stars x Meghan). A delectable, flouncy iris, having deep undulations complimented by frills and a bit of lace. Both the fluffy standards and expansive falls are white, faintly flushed lavender with crimped, distinctive borders of peachy beige. Fringed stylearms repeat the border coloring. Orange beard shading to yellow at the tip. Besides being airy and graceful, it has good substance and performs well. It's like an invigorating fresh breath of spring. Midseason to late, 33". .... \$25.00

### Previous Introductions — 1978

AUTUMN FESTIVAL — Honey brown. (Sold Out).	.....	\$22.50
BLISSFUL BALLAD — Rosy orchid.	.....	\$20.00
CLOUD DRIFT — White; blue beard tipped yellow.	.....	\$20.00
LEMON GLITTER — Cream-white, rimmed lemon yellow.	.....	\$20.00
MERRY MELODY — BB. Peachy pink. (Sold Out).	.....	\$12.50

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Barely Blue

## INTRODUCING FOR 1979

**BARELY BLUE** — TB, 38", M-L. #74-86-2. (Arctic Fury x Skywatch) x Sapphire Hills. A vigorous grower in our garden. Established clumps produce many fine, strong bloomstalks, carrying 9 to 10 well-spaced, deeply ruffled and beautifully formed flowers. Color — 'barely blue'; pale blue beard, yellow in throat. Weather resistant blooms. .... \$25.00

### Precious Introductions

**ANGELIC LIGHT** ('78). White, blue infusion. .... \$18.50  
**MEMPHIS DELIGHT** ('77). Pure pink. HC, HM. .... \$15.00  
**FEMININE CHARM** ('74). Peach-pink blend. HC, HM, AM. .... \$ 5.00

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## BION TOLMAN GARDENS — NEW IRIS FOR 1979

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### Tall Bearded

**ESKIMO COUNTRY**: Tall, ruffled white self. (Tolman sdlg. x Apline Plumes) x Ermine Robe. Stalks 36"-38" tall with 4 branches and top spur. Heavy substance and vigorous grower. Beard white with some yellow deep in the throat. Not just another white — you will like it. .... \$25.00

### Border Bearded

**ARRANGER'S DELIGHT**: Deep purple self; ruffled standards and ruffled, semi-flaring falls. (Margaret Albright sdlg. X Royal Ruffles). Medium size flower; excellent for cutting. Truly an arranger's delight. HC '78 .... \$20.00

### Intermediate Bearded

**COOL WHIP**: White standards; falls lemon yellow shading to green-gold at haft and stylearms; beard white shading to yellow at throat. A good addition in this color class. Stalks 18"-20"; good vigor; early bloomer. .... \$15.00

### Standard Dwarf Bearded

**IT'S TOPS**: Parentage involves (Tulare x Grace Note) X Gingerbread Man. Gold standards; flaring falls of gold washed brown with gold beard. Stalks 14"-16" tall. The subtle blending of gold and brown is striking. HC '78 .... \$10.00

**SALMON RUN**: (Tulare X Lillipinkput). Rich salmon self, which does not fade. Standards closed; falls semi-flaring .... \$10.00

### Previous Introductions

**MAYAN DANCER**: (1978). Pink plicata breeding .... \$20.00  
**SMOOTH SEAS**: Siberian .... \$10.00  
**ARC LIGHT**: Spuria .... \$10.00  
**BIG BROTHER**: (1977). Sib to Stitched Beauty. Plicata. Great breeder. .... \$ 7.50  
**DARK TAPESTRY**: (1977). Breeding for laced black. .... \$10.00  
**BALLET LACE**: (1977). Light lemon-pink undertones; large, flaring F. .... \$10.00  
**STITCHED BEAUTY**: (1976). Sparkling white standards; falls stitched purple. .... \$10.00  
**PAGEANT QUEEN**: (1975). Large lavender; heavy substance. .... \$10.00

See detailed descriptions in past AIS Bulletins or in Mission Bell Gardens' catalog. Extras totaling value of order will be included. Will trade for introductions of similar price range. If interested, make offer.

# NEW ZEALAND HOSPITALITY

Betty Wood, Red Bank, NJ

The Police Chief of Red Bank, N.J., where I now live, was in New Zealand during the war. When I told him that I was going to New Zealand he said, "The people of New Zealand are the most hospitable people in the world" and he was right. Virginia Mathews and the Ensmingers, other American guests at the 1978 Convention of the New Zealand Iris Society, will agree wholeheartedly.

The first event, on November 10, was an iris show in the main hall of the Canterbury Horticultural Society in Christchurch. The American visitors were honored by being invited to judge this show. The number of entries was about the same as in most American shows, but there was greater variety than I am used to. In addition to TBs and intermediates, there were Californiae, Louisianas, Spurias, Siberians and a variety of species. As in Australia, there was a class for single blossoms. The "Best of Show" was MUSIC MAKER, exhibited by Joan Innes.

The convention was officially opened on the evening of November 10 by His Worship the Mayor of Christchurch. He extended a special welcome to the American visitors and expressed his appreciation of the gift from Mr. Charles Thomas that made possible the public Botanic Iris Garden at Mona Vale park which we visited the next morning.

Christchurch has more parks within its city limits than does any other city in the world. The Mona Vale Botanic Iris Garden is beside a lake with the water-loving irises at the water's edge and others well grouped up the slope to a big bank of Spurias at the top. DILLY DILLY, FASHION DRAMA and a few PALTEC were still in bloom, but the big show was the tall bearded beds in peak bloom. In spite of all this, a little floriferous clump of *I. germanica* GRACCHUS (*I. pallida* x *I. variegata*) had a great appeal for many of us. Much of the work making this iris garden has been done by Joan Innes, whose stalk of MUSIC MAKER won Best of Show.

The road through this public park had judder bars, according to a sign warning of their presence. You don't know what judder bars are? They're those ridges in a



Virginia Mathews (left) with Allan and Gladys Ensminger pose in a Christchurch garden.

road, made for the purpose of slowing you down. When we expressed surprise at the name, the New Zealanders asked what *we* called them. What answer could we give?

After Mona Vale we visited the garden of Mrs. R. L. Sparrow, the "Convenor" of the convention. This charming small garden, wrapped around Dora Sparrow's lovely home, had a fine clump of the pink VARIETY at the entrance and irises such as BAYBERRY CANDLE, LIGHT AT EVENTIDE, and SONG OF ERIN were in bloom in the perennial border with fringed Dianthus and other small treasures in front of them. A rich blue clump of SAPPHIRE HILLS with a big rhododendron behind it looked bluer than usual.

At the Aikens garden which followed was a large bed of medians which must have put on quite a show earlier. Here also was *I. graminea*, *I. laevigata*, Siberians and Japanese grown in green-painted tubs. A big clump of HOLDEN CLOUGH and another of FOGGY DEW were especially fine. I heard one of the New Zealand members say, "If I took down the names of those I liked and *bought* them, I'd need a whole paddock to put them in." You don't know what a paddock is? It's a field.

We saw the little white *Libertia ixiooides* in this and other gardens. A member of the Iridaceae, it has three small very round petals and thin graceful leaves. Where can it be grown in the United States?

Ron Busch's garden was next. He is a hybridizer producing some interesting things. I liked his DANDBOY with buff standards and rust plicata falls, even though the falls on the flowers I saw curled up at the edges.

In the Mumberson garden we saw a solution to the problem of labelling a crowded garden. A large sign with six iris names listed on it stood before six different irises. The top name referred to the one at the back, the second name to the one just in front of it, and so on down to the bottom name which was the iris at the front.

At the Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Iris Society the evening of Nov. 11, the retiring President Madge Snow handed over the office to incoming President Brian Townsend. It was my pleasure to bring the group the official greetings from the AIS.



*The Mumbertson garden shows the multiple-name row signs described. Dora Sparrow's garden in Christchurch displays BAYBERRY CANDLE, EVENTIDE and other varieties with companion plants such as Fringed Dianthus.*

The next morning there was a judging school at which the Americans were invited to help. Following the school, and hour-long examination was given. Virginia Mathews pointed out to me that if we had helped with the teaching, we should be willing to be tested along with our pupils. Our New Zealand friends agreed and let us "sit" the examination. Although I missed some of the questions on species, we both passed. So, at the end of the convention, we were appointed certified judges in the New Zealand Iris Society, which pleased us very much.

We saw several large and beautifully landscaped gardens with little or no irises in them, but there were two other iris gardens of special note. The first was the walled garden of Mr. Charles S. Thomas, the benefactor of Mona Vale. This garden, a small remnant of his former property, has water-loving irises along the brook and large clumps of tall bearded irises on higher ground. Imaginative landscaping featuring the winding stream, makes it a gem to be remembered.

The last garden was that of Dave and Myrtle White, dear friends whom I have known for 11 years. They are 86 and 83 years old and never miss a convention or a chance to go places and see things. They care for their large garden themselves, and it is beautifully kept. SOUTHERN COMFORT was growing nearly five feet tall, next to a fine clump of BLUEBIRD BLUE, with BAYBERRY CANDLE putting on a good show nearby. CALIFORNICA and SPURIAS were well grown and I spotted a last blossom on little FASHION LADY.

On the final evening, Professor T. W. Walker, Head of Soil Science at Lincoln College, closed the convention with a talk on soils that was not only exciting, but at times, very funny. A remarkable man. But the hospitality at the home of the Whites was the fitting end to the convention tours. Next time I see the Police Chief of Red Bank, I'll tell him he's still right about New Zealanders.

## SEEING DOUBLE?

*Marvin Granger, Lake Charles, LA*

Seeing double these days? Double Louisiana irises are what we're talking about, and they just don't show up as often as we would like. There is potential, though. Crossing for doubles has been rather haphazard because you try crossing everything with CREOLE CAN-CAN in its lineage and get varying results. One cross will give a batch of seedlings with no doubling tendency at all, while another cross may give you a number of "cartwheels" and maybe one with an extra petaloid or two.

Occasionally, if you are lucky, you may get a real double. It is frustrating that most of those cartwheels and the semi-double will probably have not a single speck of pollen. You may cross these with the other batch that did not show any signs of doubles, most of which had pollen, and may or may not get results.

But even if you do get a double from the cross, where do you go from here? Line breeding becomes very difficult where more than three quarters of your seedlings have no pollen! I had to go back to some of the old seedlings (lucky I kept them), and use their pollen on the newer things to try for new colors. Sometimes, it works.

Some of the old seedlings that I have kept were crosses with DELTA STAR and WHEELHORSE. I have been toying with the idea of starting over again; I'd even like to try that cross again. For some reason, I never repeated DELTA STAR x WHEELHORSE, even though I got three good seedlings with pollen out of the cross. I may even try DELTA STAR with some of the older seedlings that have pollen. I will also be using DOUBLE TALK as much as possible.

I still grow a few of the first seedlings produced in hybridizing for doubles, but they do not bloom for me every year. Some were lost. I can't keep every seedling; it would take acres of land to keep them all, and I couldn't take care of even half that many. Just a few are confined to a small plot in my yard. In spite of these problems, the thought of producing one double in fifty or more seedlings is enough to spur you on to try again.

A severe drought one summer caused the loss of a number of the cartwheel type Louisiana doubles to be used in a future hybridizing program called the "Harlequin Series." Remnants of this program remain and will be gathered in an attempt to start again, but I'm afraid the best were lost.

Regardless of frustrations, the hybridizing program for double Louisiana irises has been the most fascinating endeavor of my whole life. I could not have envisioned what I was getting into when I found that double iris (*giganticaerulea*) growing wild in the edge of the marsh in Cameron Parish, approximately 30 miles south of Lake Charles, and many trips were made after CREOLE CAN-CAN was found.

In a few years our interest switched from collecting to hybridizing. The trips to the marshes to collect irises that were unusual ceased. There are several reasons. Hurricane Audrey destroyed huge colonies of *giganticaerulea* with the salt water left in its wake. Then came oil field exploration, drilling and drainage. There are still some patches of irises left, but the huge fields of blue blooms are practically gone.

What do we do now? We must go on. This is why I hope to collect the remnants of my old doubles and try my luck with some new crosses. I do believe that there are tremendous possibilities lying dormant and that, with a good hybridizing program, much can be accomplished. My time and stamina limit me to a small scale program. Hopefully, some young iris grower will get interested and carry on to fulfill the dream of gardens full of double Louisiana irises in many, many colors.

### THE DOUBLES THAT EXIST . . .

after approximately thirty years of hybridizing, are DOUBLE TALK, a blue-violet full double; CREOLE CANARY, a frilly, extremely variable yellow double; a blue that I call "Nine-Petaled Blue," because it has exactly nine petals; a white double that is still under number (CC72-10) and another semi-double rose color that is a reluctant bloomer, but profuse when it does bloom.

DELTA STAR is the best known of the three Louisianas that have come out of the crosses for doubles, mainly because of its wider distribution. It is a blue of flat form with a signal patch on each of its six flat, flaring falls. Of those I call cartwheels, DELTA STAR was the first.

Others in the cartwheel category are a rose colored one that is most prolific and blooms profusely as well, number CC70-31. A greenish-yellow that I never thought very pretty is down to a plant or two that may be used in hybridizing to attempt to produce a green or greenish-yellow of garden value.

Four especially pretty ones were a white, a violet with a white starburst center, a cream colored and a deep maroon with a small sunburst center. These, from the Harlequin Series, may have been lost; labels were lost, so I collected the odds and ends of plants from the old beds in hopes that these will show up.

I liked all the registered doubles equally—DOUBLE TALK, CREEOLE CANARY and DELTA STAR. The latter has been most widely accepted; it multiplies readily and seems to do well everywhere.

CREEOLE CANARY, introduced in 1978, is more in the novelty category, so it will take time to see what it will do. The double white, CC72-10, may be registered in 1979. The selection of a name is underway. Anyone seeing double yet? We hope that you will be in the not too distant future. Double Louisiana irises, that is!

---

## Bloomin' Rememberances

Larry Gaulter, California

*Larry Gaulter is a distinguished irisarian who was awarded the Hybridizer's Medal in 1978 by the AIS Board of Directors. His introductions have included a galaxy of prized varieties and a runner-up for last year's Dykes Medal, MARY FRANCES.*

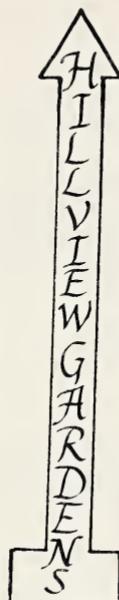
*Dearer to an editor's heart than his rising career are his many humor-packed memories of notables upon whose efforts today's iris has grown. We'd heard that Larry had written some excellent historic material for regional magazines; he agreed to do the same for us. We will publish a series of these anecdotes. In a letter, he suggested that the Bulletin could use more humor (a request from many readers), made modest noises about his writing and added, ". . . you are the editor and what do I know. I'm just a 72 year-old idiot, which I hope is better than being a 73 year-old one." If he is an idiot, we hope to join such ranks!*

I first knew of Tom Craig not in association with iris, but through his outstanding paintings for *Life Magazine* that illustrated battle scenes during World War II. The spring after the end of the war, we visited the Whiting gardens in Mapleton, Iowa. Agnes pointed out some of the paintings by Tom Craig hanging in her entrance hall. She said that Tom had offered to trade a few paintings for some of her newest and best irises.

A couple of years later, Frances and I visited the De Young Museum in San Francisco. There a collection of paintings, "Self-Portrait of the Artist," was hanging. Among these self-portraits was a painting by Tom which we especially admired. An almost stark room was shown, with a cast iron stove and stove piping across the ceiling and Tom Craig was contemplating his likeness.

We finally did meet Tom Craig at the 1954 Utah Convention, where he was the guest speaker. At the 1956 convention in Los Angeles, his garden was on tour. I say garden, but it was actually a gently sloping mountain, with irises on top and irises spilling down the sides. He grew as many as 100,000 seedlings each year, along with selected seedlings and named varieties.

A big man who thought big and lived big, he lived and died the way he wanted, among his plants. I remember visiting his plantings after he moved to Oregon and Tom, flowing white hair, barefoot, now and then stepping on a thorny thistle, hopping around in pain — but that pain momentarily was lost when pointing out a bloom he thought interestingly beautiful



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#### Previous Introductions

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**COPPER FLAME** (R. Blodgett '78). TB, 34". Very bright, attractive copper. S. deep copper; F. bright gold shading to deep copper in lower half; coral-red beard. HC '75. . . . . \$20.00

**PERSIAN MORN** (R. Blodgett '78). TB, 34". Light violet self with plum throat and edge on F.; tangerine beard. HC '77. . . . . \$20.00

**SNOWY OWL** (R. Blodgett '78). TB, 38". Large, ruffled, pure white self. White beard. Hardy and vigorous. HC '75. . . . . \$20.00

**PEACH FESTIVAL** (R. Blodgett '78). BB, 24". Ruffled peach-pink self; tangerine beard. All in proper proportion. HC '74. . . . . \$7.50

**GYPSY BOY** (R. Blodgett '78). SDB, 10". S. bronze-bold; F. smooth, velvety brown; beard tipped blue. HC '77. . . . . \$5.00

**SNOW PIXIE** (R. Blodgett '78). SDB, 10". S. white; F. white with saffron spot pattern; white beard tipped yellow. HC '77. . . . . \$5.00

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ORIGINAL SIN (B. Miller). TB (short) or possible BB, EM & RE late October. The deviation from orthodox plic behavior is in the standards, which are purple, lightly mottled white outside, and white inside with purple plicata edge. Falls white, with purple 3/16" ruffled edge and another 1/4" dotted purple. Size of bloom in proportion to height. Beard white over purple. 3 branches and terminal. Most appealing. Memphis Lass X Gibson Girl.....	\$25.00
*PHARAOH'S DREAM (B. Miller). TB, 38", E & RE mid-October. Huge. A vision of gleaming copper tones. S. copper roan. F. lightly ruffled, copper-tan spot under golden beard, gradually deepening to copper roan. Spicy oriental fragrance. Exceptionally fine texture. 3 well-spaced branches and terminal. Witch of Endor X Resurrection Story sib.....	\$25.00
*SECOND COMING (B. Miller). TB, 38", EM & RE late October. Very ruffled white, with an aura of celestial calm. Pale green centers on both S. and F. Sweet fragrance. Falls too narrow, branching too close, but texture superb and flowers not crowded. 3 branches and terminal. White beard tipped lemon. With its pedigree, it should breed advances in white remontants. (Snow Flurry x (New Snow x Crystal Beauty)) X Celestial Snow.....	\$20.00
*URIAH THE HITTITE (B. Miller). TB, 36", E & RE mid-October. Vivid as a pagan war banner. S. old gold; F. rosy crimson, edged bronze. Gold beard. Small white area at haft, evenly striped crimson. So wildly victorious and so many blooms at once, the small, crisp blossoms look right (often 14 blooms per stalk). Fragrant. 3 branches and terminal, lower branch re-branches. Witch of Endor X Resurrection Story sib.	

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**DREAM ROMANCE** (Burger '78). . . . . \$24.00

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**SONG OF NORWAY** (Walt Luihn, 1979). #76-5. TB, 38", M-L. Nobleman X Blue Luster. Reminiscent of silvery blue icebergs and deep blue crevasses, we predict this tall Norwegian beauty will steal the hearts of all who see it, as it has been a "crowd-stopper" in our garden every year since its maiden bloom. It is a ruffled, silvery light powder blue self, highlighted by a deep bluebird blue beard (RHS 042) tipped silver. As it reaches full maturity, it begins to very gradually "melt" to a lighter shade, which seems to further enhance the contrast of its rich blue beard. For those who like to capture Queen of Show, this icy beauty is a "must," as it is not uncommon to have three or more open blossoms on its well-branched stem. We have pictures to prove that, on occasion, it has had as many as five open flowers! HC 1978 . . . . . \$25.00

# REBLOOM IN SIBERIAN AND JAPANESE IRISES

*Currier McEwen, South Harpswell, Maine*

Since the duration of bloom is of great significance in any flower, the capacity to rebloom is important — especially in irises, which usually bloom for only two to four weeks. I first became interested in rebloom in Siberian and Japanese irises in 1972. Prior to that, I grew two reblooming Siberians, *MY LOVE* and *VIOLET REPEAT*, but I had received them as gifts; I had not sought them for their reblooming trait.

In 1972 those two, plus several of my own Siberian and Japanese seedlings, put on a fine show after bloom had ended in the others, and I could not help but be impressed. That was the year I began crossing those cultivars showing the reblooming trait, and I have done so each year since. During 1977 and 1978 especially, I kept detailed records of the performance of the Siberian rebloomers in our garden. Thus far, I have made less careful observations on the Japanese rebloomers. Hence this article is based primarily on Siberians with only briefer comments regarding Japanese irises.

## PREFERENTIAL AND OCCASIONAL REBLOOMERS

The time of rebloom in Siberian and Japanese irises, as I reported previously,<sup>1</sup> differs strikingly from that in tall bearded irises. As is well known, the latter usually have a rest period of several months following first bloom until bloom occurs again. In contrast, the rest period in Siberian and Japanese irises usually is short, lasting only one to three weeks. In some, the new stalks for the second period of bloom may be showing small buds by the time the last of the first bloom fades.

On the basis of experience over the past two years, I believe there are two fairly distinct types of reblooming Siberians, those which rebloom only occasionally and those which, I believe, deserve the term "preferential rebloomers." Zurbrigg has used the terms "confirmed" and "proven" rebloomers in writing about bearded remontant irises<sup>2</sup> but I think "preferential" is more descriptive in the case of Siberians. In them, cultivars of this type perform better at second than at first bloom.

The occasional rebloomers do not do so every year; they send up more — usually many more — stalks at first bloom than at second, and the stalks at first bloom carry many more branches and buds than do those at rebloom. Conversely, the preferential rebloomers send up more stalks at rebloom than at first, and the reblooming stalks are better branched and budded. Those which were mature enough to rebloom in 1977, did so also in 1978.

During 1978, 58 of my Siberian irises rebloomed. Of these, 28 met the criteria for preferential and 27 for occasional rebloomers. Another three showed some features of each. Some characteristics of the occasional and preferential ones are shown in the table that follows, in terms of average figures.

## REBLOOM IN SIBERIAN IRISES

	Column 1		Column 2		Column 3		Column 4	
	Average Stalk Height in inches		Average Number of branches		Average Number of buds		Average Number of stalks	
Bloom Category	1st Bloom	Rebloom	1st Bloom	Rebloom	1st Bloom	Rebloom	1st Bloom	Rebloom
Occasional	29	35(+6)*	0.8	0.5(-.3)	3.5	2.5(-1.)	5.1	1.8(-3.3)
Preferential	22	34(+12)	0.6	1.1(+.5)	2.7	3.6(+.9)	3.2	4.6(+1.4)

\* ( ) = difference between first bloom and rebloom

- = decrease

+ = increase

As shown in column 1, the average height of the rebloom stalks was greater for both occasional and preferential rebloomers, than the height at first bloom. This is especially true of those in the preferential group and important because, in some of them, the stalks at first bloom have been too short, placing the flowers down in the foliage. This failure will, I trust, be corrected by selective breeding.

Column 2 shows the average number of branches. None of those categorized as occasional rebloomers had more branches at rebloom than at first, and some with a branch at first bloom had none at the second period. In contrast, no preferential rebloomer had fewer branches at second bloom; 25 of the 28 had more.

In column 3, the data for average number of buds were similar to those for branches, but the difference between occasional and preferential ones for the two periods was even more pronounced.

Adding the number of buds at first and second bloom, the total number of flowers in a year is only a little more for preferential than occasional rebloomers. However, since the preferential ones can be expected to rebloom much more consistently year after year, their total amount of bloom over a period of years should greatly exceed that of the occasional ones.

Most striking of all, as shown in column 4, were the data regarding the number of stalks. Since some clumps in both groups, especially among the occasional reblooming cultivars, were older and larger with more stalks, the numbers shown for the average number of stalks at first and second bloom between the two categories, probably are not accurately representative. The differences in each category between first bloom and rebloom, however, are accurate.

The number of stalks at second bloom among the occasional rebloomers was small compared with the first bloom, rebloom in them was not very significant. Rebloom in the preferential group, on the other hand, was a very impressive and useful feature in the garden.

I believe that the yearly reblooming reliability of the preferential group will mark another impressive difference. Certainly the cultivars in the occasional category have been very spotty in their rebloom from year to year although some are more consistent than others.

I have had CAMBRIDGE and VIOLET FLARE for at least ten years and they have rebloomed, rather sparsely, only once. RUFFLED VELVET also has rebloomed only

once in seven years, but that one time was impressive. DREAMING YELLOW has rebloomed fairly well in each of three clumps, in four of seven years.

In contrast, most of the preferential clumps which have been of blooming age and size for several years have rebloomed abundantly each year, although MY LOVE has not been completely consistent. However, many of those which I have categorized as preferential bloomed and rebloomed for the first time in 1978, and their future performance remains to be seen.

### GENETICS OF THE TRAIT

My experience to date is too limited to permit more than rather general comments about the genetics of the reblooming trait in these irises. However, a few observations can be cited. WELCOME RETURN, a colchicine induced, tetraploid preferential rebloomer from a cross of two other preferential ones (ON AND ON and MY LOVE), when crossed with another preferential, induced tetraploid closely related to it, has given only preferential rebloomers. The same was true when it was selfed. Of four "bee pod" seedlings from WELCOME RETURN, three were preferential and one had features of both groups.

Another cross — MY LOVE (preferential) by WHITE MAGNIFICENCE (occasional) — gave two rebloomers; one showed features of both categories, and the other was fully "occasional." I hope to have better data in another two years.

I have said that three cultivars seem to fall between the two categories. One, the child of MY LOVE and WHITE MAGNIFICENCE, mentioned above, put up twice as many stalks at first bloom as at second but those at second bloom were better branched and budded.

Two others, (the seedling from WELCOME RETURN by unknown noted above, and a third generation tetraploid going back to SNOWY EGRET twice and to WHITE SWIRL) both sent up about three times as many stalks at second as at first. The stalks at first bloom were better branched and budded. It is not surprising that there should be cultivars with these mixed features; but, on the whole, the two categories of occasional and preferential rebloomers seem to hold up fairly well.

One may question to what extent the capacity to rebloom is governed by genetic and physiologic factors. My experience leaves me in no doubt that the trait is chiefly genetically determined, but that physiologic, or cultural, factors are also important. Even a preferential rebloomer may not rebloom the first season after transplanting, or if crowded or unhealthy. The physiologic state of the plant is even more important in governing rebloom in cultivars which have the genetic potential for only occasional rebloom. My Siberians have now been growing for 12 years in beds that have never been fertilized. (I do not mean that I recommend using no fertilizer for Siberian irises! I intend to make myself do it next year) I suspect rebloom might be better if I pampered them more.

### NAMED REBLOOMING VARIETIES

Perhaps it will be useful to list the named rebloomers I know. Most in our garden are merely under number and I will not list those.

*Preferential Rebloomers:* LAVENDER LIGHT, MY LOVE, ON AND ON, PLACID WATERS, SOFT BLUE, VIOLET REPEAT, WELCOME RETURN and WHITE ENCORE.

*Occasional Rebloomers:* AUGURY, BLUE BURGEE, BUTTER AND SUGAR, CAMBRIDGE, DREAMING YELLOW, OUTSET, RUFFLED VELVET, SNOW QUEEN, SOOTH-SAYER, TOKAY GRAPE, and VIOLET FLARE. Others, which I am told rebloom but

which I have not as yet had an opportunity to observe, include BLUE RIDGE, ERIC THE RED, SILVER TIP and ZEST.

The comments thus far have dealt only with Siberians of the 28-chromosome group and tetraploids derived from them (subseries *Siberiricae*). I have not as yet observed cultivars of the 40-chromosome group (subseries *Chrysographes*) in detail, but have four that rebloom well: BLUE FORTY, ECHO II, MAUVE MOOD and PURPLE PRINCESS. Of these, rebloom on ECHO II and PURPLE PRINCESS in our garden has been especially abundant, but I do not have details as to how these cultivars compared in various features at first and second bloom.

Similarly, I do not have a detailed record of the performance of my Japanese iris rebloomers, but casual observations suggest that they are like the Siberians. Many appear to be of the occasional type whereas others, such as GARDEN CAPRICE and PURPLE PARASOL, are preferential rebloomers.

### TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

It is too early to make solid decisions about terminology regarding rebloom in Siberian irises, but I think there are at least two aspects that need further study leading to decisions. One has to do with what I have called the preferential and occasional categories in this article. Are the terms which I have described valid and suitable?

The other aspect is concerned with the broader question of what is rebloom in Siberians. Raymond Smith in his chapter on rebloom in *The World of Irises*<sup>3</sup> has defined a rebloomer as "an iris that produces an extra period of full bloom each year." He continues that, "By full bloom is meant bloom of one or more increases from each rhizome that flowered during the immediately preceding regular period. This definition excludes those sorts whose stalks emerge serially over an extended season, as well as clones with only a fraction of the mature rhizomes blooming during one period and the remainder during the next . . ."



WHITE ENCORE, a reblooming Siberian variety by Dr. Currier McEwen

The Reblooming Iris Society, however, has currently accepted as a rebloomer any iris with a significant bloom period other than the regular spring bloom season.<sup>4</sup> I must emphasize at once that I do not know the means by which the second period of bloom appears in Siberian and Japanese irises. In this article, I have used the term "rebloom" not in a botanical, but in a purely descriptive, sense to indicate a second or even third period of bloom following the regular period.

As mentioned in the beginning of this article, second bloom in Siberian and Japanese irises usually follows a rest period of only a few weeks. This is so different from the usual remontant behavior of bearded irises, that one faces the obvious question — whether it should be considered rebloom or extended bloom. In my own records, I have called rebloomers those cultivars which show no starting of new stalks when the last of the first period of bloom fades. Those in which new stalks have started, I have referred to as "extended bloomers." Perhaps this is splitting hairs.

### FINAL NOTE

As a final note, let me say that there is still very fresh in my mind the performance of WELCOME RETURN in 1978. It bloomed first in June, again abundantly in July and then sent up one more stalk in September. Last year one of its children did the same, as did VIOLET REPEAT. As I write these notes October 15, my Japanese iris PURPLE PARASOL opened its last bud this day, after blooming first in July then again abundantly in August and sending up this one stalk in late September.

Rebloom in these beardless irises is rewarding and, I am sure, will be steadily improved in reliability and abundance of rebloom as well as in quality of flower. Out of some 3,500 Siberian irises of blooming age and size in our garden in 1978, 58 or about 1.7% rebloomed. In contrast, 52% of seedlings from crosses of preferential parents rebloomed. All of these had been lined out as newly sprouted seedlings in the spring of 1976. They were young and had been planted only 6 to 8 inches apart and hence were crowded. I have no doubt that still more would prove to be rebloomers when older and given better growing conditions. The point I wish to make, of course, is that the reblooming trait is readily enhanced by selective breeding. Hence, one can look forward confidently to steady improvement.

1. McEwen, C., "Reblooming Siberian Irises," *The Siberian Iris*, Vol. 4, No. 2, Fall 1975, pp 20-21.
2. Zurbrigg, L., Personal Communication.
3. Smith, R.C., "Rebloom," *The World of Irises*, Warburton, B. and Hamblen, M., The American Iris Society, 1978, Chapter 7, p. 136.
4. Zurbrigg, L., "Definition of a Reblooming Iris," *Reblooming Iris Recorder*, No. 15, Fall 1978, p.8.

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### NOVEL NAMES

Iris hybridizer Joseph Ghio of California seems to tell a story in his variety names from the '78 R & I booklet. To wit: "Since her LOVER BOY was an ARTISTE without an ETHIC, JOEY had a PREMONITION that he had a ROVING EYE." In the next chapter . . . .

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## 1979 IRIS INTRODUCTIONS

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Blanchard, OK 73010

### 1979 INTRODUCTIONS - PERRY DYER

<b>EVERLASTING LOVE.</b> TB, 34" (86 cm), Clear, clean, medium coral-pink self with deeper coral beard. Broad, moderately ruffled. 2-3 well-spaced branches and spur, 7-8 buds. Sdlg. C-11: (Pink Taffeta X Crystal Flame). EC 1978.....	\$25.00
<b>SILENT STRINGS.</b> IB, 16" (41 cm), M. Sparkling light to medium blue self, moderately ruffled. White beard tipped yellow. 1 branch, 3-4 buds. Sdlg. C-4: (Music Maker X Angel Music). EC 1975.....	\$10.00
<b>CUBAN CUTIE.</b> SDB, 12" (30 cm), M-L. Golden brown standards; moderately ruffled dark red-brown falls with golden brown edging. Dark yellow beard. 1 branch, 2-4 buds. Moderately heavy bloomer, but excellent increaser. Sdlg. E-16: (Little Titan X Java Girl). EC 1978.....	\$ 7.50
<b>JADE MIST.</b> SDB, 12" (30 cm), E. Light smoky blue standards with green veins and deep blue midribs similar to Sea Venture. Light blue falls with chartreuse-green spot around pale blue beard. Compact, well-formed flowers. Grassy foliage similar to Demon. 2-3 buds. Sdlg. E-3: (Demon X Canary Isle). HC, EC 1978.....	\$ 7.50

*Free price list available on request*

Box 196

**W. H. CLOUGH**

Pittsfield, PA 16340

### 1979 Introductions

#### Tall Bearded Iris

**SHARP and SASSY** (Clough '79). Sdlg. PL74A. 36", M. A new and different plicata from the cross of Stepping Out X PI 1-69. PI 1-69 is a pink plicata from the cross of Ancient Egypt x (Pink Fulfillment x (May Hall x Lynn Hall)). Sharp and Sassy has all the good qualities of its parent Stepping Out, but the color is entirely different. The flowers are medium size, about 5". The standards are about 834-1, royal purple, closed and ruffled, with creamy white base flecked and edged royal purple. The falls flare and are a creamy white, edged and flecked with royal purple. The beard is an orange-yellow. Fertile both ways.....\$25.00

**FAIRY FEATHERS** (Clough '79). Sdlg. 74PL. 32", M-L. A near pink plicata from the cross of April Molody X PL 1-69 (parentage given above). The medium size flowers with standards almost closed, domed, arched and ruffled, have a pale creamy white base flecked near pink. The falls are lightly edged and flecked near pink over a pale creamy white background. A white spot just below the pale tangerine beard. The falls are semi-flaring and round. 7 or 8 buds are carried on candelabra branched stems, provide lots of flowers without bunching. Pod fertile. ....\$25.00

#### Previous Introductions

**TULIP FESTIVAL, ROYAL VOYAGER, HIS HIGHNESS, SPILLWAY, and RICH DREAMS.** \$7.00 each or all 5 for \$25.00

*Many other recently introduced varieties available at bargain prices. Price list on request.*

## RIVERDALE IRIS GARDENS

Glenn and Zula Hanson

7124 Riverdale Road

Minneapolis, Minn. 55430

### Introductions for 1979

*For full descriptions, write for our free catalog with an extensive listing of dwarfs, medians and species.*

#### *Border Bearded*

MISSY LU (Frances Ehle). BB. Lightly laced pale blue self. Bushy orange beard tipped white. .... \$15.00

#### *Intermediate Bearded*

COUNTRY DEEJAY (Carol Lankow). IB. Saucy maroon with red spot in falls. Bushy maroon beard tipped gold. .... \$12.50  
KERI (Carol Lankow). IB. Clear, light pink with a pink beard and unusually wide, ruffled form. Good grower. Durable flowers. .... \$12.50

#### *Arilbred*

LITTLE ELMOHR (Leda Christlieb). AB. An outstanding miniature reproduction of beloved Elmoehr. 17-19". Violet bitone. .... \$ 7.50

#### *Minature Tall Bearded*

BLACK LADY (D. O. Rawdon). MTB. Grayed orange stds., edged black. Very dark falls. Bright yellow beard. .... \$10.00  
CANARY QUEEN (D. O. Rawdon). MTB. Yellow with somewhat deeper falls. White thumbprint. Yellow beard. .... \$10.00  
VIOLET ROSE (D. O. Rawdon). MTB. White background, heavily speckled with violet. A distinguished plicata. Yellow beard. .... \$10.00  
OSCODA (Frank Williams). MTB. Yellow stds. Bluish-red falls with line pattern at hafts. Deep orange beard. .... \$10.00  
SLIM JIM (Frank Williams). MTB. Light violet self with some white influence, giving a rosy-pink effect. .... \$10.00  
SWEET MELISSA (Frank Williams). MTB. White self lightly washed pink. .... \$10.00  
QUEEN'S BABY (Frank Williams). MTB. White stds.; light blue-pink falls. .... \$10.00

#### *Standard Dwarf Bearded*

TIME OF GRAPES (Leda Christlieb). SDB. A very lovely dark violet self with a fuzzy blue beard. .... \$ 7.50  
RED TATOO (D. O. Rawdon). SDB. Light red-violet stds. Full violet-red falls with a darker spot. Red-violet beard. .... \$ 7.50  
RED PRINCESS (D. O. Rawdon). SDB. Red-purple self with a darker spot in the falls and a red-purple beard. .... \$ 7.50  
EXOTIC SHADOW (D. O. Rawdon). SDB. Pale violet-blue stds. Green-gold falls, edged violet. Light violet beard. .... \$ 7.50

#### *Also Co-Introducing*

All of the introductions of Palmer Iris Gardens as advertised in the "Medianite". We have all of Palmer's current plus past introductions. They are fully described in our catalog, free upon request. See also Carol Lankow's ad for her new introductions in this same issue.

## INTRODUCING

BLUE MOUSTACHE—TB, 36". WHITE—clean, clear white, good form and substance, ruffled. Result of 15 years of crossing and selection.	
BLUE BEARD—deep blue. Result of continuous review of several thousand seedlings. Sdlg. 73-8. HC '77.	\$25.00
LAC DU FLAMBEAU—TB, 34". Velvety red self; blending beard. ((Ranger x Pacemaker) x Lynn Hall) X Utah Velvet. Advancement to clear, clean reds. HC.	\$25.00
AMAHL—TB, 36". S. butterscotch, suffusion of dark to very light shadings at center of petals; F. white ground with plicata stitchings from lighter around edges to deeper at hafts; self beard. (Taholah x Riptide) X Lee's Delight. Sdlg. 72-3. HC '77.	\$25.00

### Previous Introduction

WISCONSIN HERITAGE—TB, 36". Methyl violet self, white spot on falls, ruffled. Polka Time X Violet Grace. Good grower. Show variety. Granted "Best Seedling Award" Wisconsin Iris Society show. HC and HM.	\$10.00
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## CLARENCE H. PROTZMANN

400 E. Van Norman Ave.

Milwaukee, WI 53207

## INTRODUCTIONS from DAVE NISWONGER

LILAC THRILL (Niswonger '79). Sdlg. 34-74: ((16-68: Sapphire Fuzz x Rippling Waters) x (7-67: Sapphire Fuzz x Pink Flurry)) X Pink Sleigh. TB, 30" (76 cm), Mid., HC '76 & '77, fertile both ways. This is a clean, clear, pale lilac with a hint of pink. It's a self with a pink beard. The pod parent was a pink with a blue beard, but it bloomed without any increase. When this happened, I immediately pollinated it with pollen from PINK SLEIGH. The seedlings that resulted bloomed in all shades of pink and violet, but this was the only lilac and the most vigorous of the lot. It was marked during a rainstorm with only one shattered bloom to see. It was lined out and forgotten until the row bloomed with 3 and 4 blossoms open at a time on stalks with 8 and 9 buds. It knocked me over when I saw it again — or should I say it gave me a really big THRILL. It should do the same for you, and it's a good breeder, too.	\$25.00
LOOKINGGLASS EYES (Niswonger '79). Sp 1-76: Blue Lassie X unknown (probably a self). Spuria, 39", Early Mid. This pale yellow edged with charcoal gives the impression of horn-rimmed glasses. It's different, and I think you will enjoy it.	\$15.00
REDWOOD SUPREME (Niswonger '79). Sp 6-76: (Intensity x Woodwind) X unknown (probably a self). Spuria, 40" (102 cm), Mid. This dark beauty has chocolate brown stds. and orange falls, edged with the same dark brown. In addition to its beauty, it's vigorous and can take the very changeable weather we have in the Midwest — where plants are hit with a late freeze when they start to grow. It has already produced some fine seedlings. You will find this new spuria a refreshing addition to your spuria border.	\$20.00

## CAPE IRIS GARDENS

822 Rodney Vista Blvd.

Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

(This is where you can get BROWN LASSO, and CENTER FOLD and CORAL STRAND, too).

# GEORGE A. SHOOP

12560 S.W. Douglas

Portland, Oregon 97225

**CHINA DRAGON** (Shoop '79). TB, 36", Midseason. A bright deep orange self. Lightly laced and flaring falls. Red-orange beard. Branching and good plant. My deepest orange to date. #74-19. Involving Spanish Gift, Gay Time, Ole, Hamblen H5-35, Spanish Af-fair. .... \$25.00

**PINK PLEASURE** (Shoop '79). TB, 36", Midseason. A deep pink on the rose side; pink beard. Flaring, ruffled falls. Well branched. Excellent plant. #74-21. .... \$25.00

**RINGO** (Shoop '79). TB, 36", Midseason. An amoena that has all qualities! White, ruffled standards; broad, flaring, grape purple falls with wide white band on edge; tangerine beard. Involving Behold, Fanfare Orchid, Royal Host. #74-9. .... \$25.00

*Two of the above \$40.00*

**BESAME MUCHO** (Spahn '79). TB, 35", M. Ruffled, domed standards are a soft primrose yellow. Broad, flaring falls are white except at haft area but seem yellower as ruffling displays the yellow underside. Orange-yellow beard. Average 7 buds. Sdlg. 74B1. Kingdom X New Moon. .... \$25.00

**MEXICALI ROSE** (Spahn '79). TB, 36", M. Exceptionally clear orchid-rose self, no beige at haft. Soft tangerine beard. S. domed and inter-locked; falls broad and semi-flaring. Nicely ruffled throughout, plus a bit of lace. 8 to 10 buds. Sdlg. 71C1. Irish Lullaby X Rippling Waters. .... \$25.00

**SOPHISTICATED LADY** (Spahn '79). TB, 34", EM. Petite cream self with a slight yellow infusion at heart near the light yellow beard. Entire flower is crimped and laced. 7 buds average. Sdlg. 74G1. Irish Lullaby X New Moon. .... \$25.00

## *Previous Introductions*

For descriptions see Spring 1977 and 1978 Bulletins

BRAHMS' LULLABY	'78 .. \$20.00	ISLE OF CAPRI	'77 .. \$15.00
LIEBESTRAUM	'78 .. \$20.00	SUNRISE SYMPHONY	'77 .. \$15.00
SLEEPYTIME GAL	'78 .. \$20.00		

*Purchase any 1979 introduction, and I will include another, my choice, as an extra.  
Or, get all 3 for \$40. Ask for group prices on others.*

**FRED E. SPAHN**

1229 Lincoln Ave.

Dubuque, Iowa 52001

## 1979 INTRODUCTION . . . ELEVENTH AVENUE

Sdlg. O-J-50-9. TB, 39" (99 cm), W2V/W2Vlo-v. White ground plicata sttched pansy violet; fluted; light orange beard tipped violet. HC 1978. Jakarta X Step-ping Out. . . . . \$25.00

**ORA BURTON**

304 11th Avenue

Salt Lake City, Utah 84103

LORENA (K. Heilman '79). Sdlg. LR-1. SDB, 12-14", E-M. Dark violet with very dark, velvety thumbprint on falls. Blue beard. Pollen fertile. My first introduction. Named for Lorena Reid from whom I bought the seed several years ago. Distinct from all the other seedlings. Unknown parentage. July shipment, postpaid. . . . \$6.00

**Mrs. Kathryn Heilman, 1615 Russell Road, Lebanon, PA 17042**

## AVONBANK GARDENS

(Home of everblooming JEAN GUYMER)

## INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1979

BABY BLESSED—A lovely yellow SDB from two remontant SDBs. Re-blooms in September and October in VA. . . . .	\$12.00
ART OF RAPHAEL—All show-bench stalks! Grey-chartreuse with blue high-lights and blue-based beard. Non-remontant. . . . .	\$30.00
EARL—Yellow bitone, near amoena. Sometimes reblooms. Wide, rounded petals. Breeds remontants. . . . .	\$25.00
FAIR FLORA—Sib to the above, in deeper yellow, and even wider in form. Falls deep golden yellow. . . . .	\$25.00
LATEST STYLE—A stylish violet amoena, one of the last to bloom in spring. Sure remontant in September . . . . .	\$10.00
LATEST TREND—A sib to the above, taller and earlier in rebloom. . . . .	\$7.50
LIGHTLY SEASONED—White ground plicata, with only a few bright orchid dots on the haft. Rebloom synchronized, early to mid-Sept. . . . .	\$12.00
SONG OF SALVATION—Gorgeous, rich deep violet self, with black "highlights". Out of HALT! Oncobred form. . . . .	\$30.00
SUMMER HOLIDAYS—Blue, blue-violet that reblooms both summer and fall — July and October in VA. . . . .	\$30.00
VIOLET MIRACLE—A simply huge, giant iris. Stalks like tree-trunks in the fall, up to 44". Reblooms October. . . . .	\$25.00

*Send 28¢-stamp for catalog with complete descriptions including faults.*

**LLOYD ZURBRIGG**

**Box 5691 Radford University, Radford, VA 24142**

1979

Introductions

## *Louise Bellagamba*

11431 Old St. Charles Road  
Bridgeton, Missouri 63044

AN-JAN—Sdlg. 2576. TB, 34", M. Light pink self. Very WIDE at the haft with heavily ruffled, compact blooms. Named for our three beautiful daughters, all of whom I often call AN-JAN. Limited stock. HC '78. .... \$25.00

CHRISTMAS WISH—SIB, 30". White self from White Swirl sdlgs. A flaring, clean white with durability. Selected by Harley Briscoe as my best seedling. .... \$20.00

### 1978 Introductions

DRUCILLA SHAW—TB. .... \$15.00 DOLL FOOT—AR. MED. .... \$10.00  
MAGGIE LEE—SIB. .... \$15.00 See ad in 1978 Spring Bulletin

## **HAMNER'S IRIS GARDEN**

**960 No. Perris Blvd.**

**Perris, CA 92370**

### **1979 INTRODUCTIONS**

GOOD EARTH—TB, 36-38", M. Rich golden bronze self with strong, upright stands and wide, flaring, ruffled falls. Branching and bud count excellent. Vigorous. This golden bronze beauty has tremendous garden value. Sdlg. 75-122. Spiced Honey X (Taste of Honey x Honey Nectar). .... \$25.00

PINK POM POM—TB, 26-29", E. Frilly, near border size, dainty pink self. Strong, upright stands and wide, round falls, generously laced and ruffled. Fast to increase and very floriferous. Good branching and bud count. Beard is a deeper shade of pink. Sdlg. 72-3. ((China Gate x sdlg.) x (Nike x New Frontier)) X (Picture Perfect x New Moon). HC 1975. .... \$15.00

PRINCESS GLORIA—IB, 36-38", M. Beautifully ruffled royal purple self of wide, round form. Excellent branching and bud count. Self beard tipped blue. Sdlg. 75-36. (Liberty Royal x 67-49) X (Touche x Latin Lover). .... \$25.00

WHITE RAIMENT—TB, 36-38", E-M. Early, lavishly ruffled, pure white self. Hardy and vigorous plus excellent branching and bud count. Self beard tightly tipped lemon. Long bloom season. Sdlg. 75-A. ((Fluted Haven sdlg. x Winter Olympics) X (Memorandum x Ermine Robe)). .... \$25.00

*Price list sent by request*

## KEITH KEPPEL

P.O. Box 8173

Stockton, California 95208

### Introducing in 1979 . . .

GENEROSITY (Keppel)	Wide, ruffled cream, deeper in falls.	\$25.00
HEAVENLY ANGELS (Gatty)	Ruffled, fluted and flared white.	\$25.00
LEMON PUNCH (Gatty)	Broad, bright and clean lemon.	\$30.00
MANNEQUIN (Gatty)	Flared buff-cream with pinkish cast.	\$25.00
MARASCHINO (Keppel)	Blocky buff-pink with prominent beards.	\$25.00
MARMALADE (Keppel)	Ruffled and laced deep orange, tan cast.	\$30.00
SIMPATICO (Gatty)	Ruffled raspberry-violet self.	\$25.00
VIVIEN (Keppel)	Silky, clear light blue, orange-red beards.	\$25.00
WOODCRAFT (Keppel)	Tall, ruffled, brownish red plicata.	\$25.00
DESPERADO (Keppel)	BB. Lemon to ivory with grape hafts.	\$20.00
SCOUT'S HONOR (Gatty)	IB. Ruffled tan, rosy infusions.	\$10.00
VERSE (Gatty)	IB. Violet with deeper red-violet fall spot.	\$10.00
VISA (Gatty)	IB. Greenish yellow self, small pale fall spot.	\$10.00
TIDE POOL (Keppel)	SDB. Greenish yellow, olive and rosy brown.	\$ 7.50
TOY PARADE (Gatty)	SDB. Blue with deeper blue fall spot.	\$ 7.50

See Winter Bulletin for more complete descriptions . . . or write for catalogue.

### Introducing for 1979

GOLDEN ODYSSEY (Spence '79). TB, 36", Midseason. Sdlg. 69-4. ((Golden Years x Orange Parade) x Royal Gold) x New Moon. Laced golden yellow self; orange beard. Named for the Mediterranean cruise ship, Golden Odyssey. . . . . Net \$25.00

#### Previous introductions

LIFE MASTER '78	\$22.50	MARQUESA '75	\$10.00
NICKELODEON '78	\$22.50	UNION PLAZA '75	\$10.00
DIVA '77	20.00	CENTER RING '74	\$10.00
NEAPOLITAN '77	\$20.00	MELODY D'AMOUR '74	\$10.00
END PLAY	\$15.00	TAHITIAN GLOW '74	\$10.00
GENTLE SPIRIT '76	\$15.00	VALENTINA '73	\$ 7.50
SOLDIER'S CHORUS '76	\$15.00	MUSSETTA'S WALTZ '73	\$ 5.00
VIENNA COUP '76	\$15.00	ELEGIE '73	\$ 5.00
HALL OF SONG '75	\$10.00	GATEWAY '72	\$ 4.00

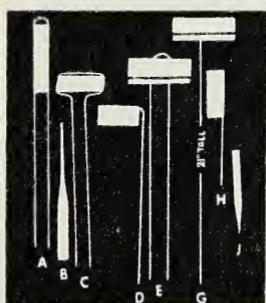
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**HERBERT J. SPENCE**

3461 Adams Avenue

Ogden, Utah 84403

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H—Pot or Rock Garden Markers	10 for \$1.25
J—Small Plant Labels	50 for \$1.25

### PAW PAW EVERLAST LABEL COMPANY

Box 93—H

Paw Paw, Michigan 49079

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## BALDWIN IRIS GARDEN

1306 Monroe

Walla Walla, WA 99362

### Introducing for 1979

MIGHTY PRETTY (Christensen-Stump). Sdlg. 8K4-10. TB, 34", M. (Blushing Beauty x ((Mary Randall x Dancing Light) x Glittering Amber) X Silver Canyon. The standards of this superb bloom are bright pink. Broad-petaled falls are white with a crisp, clean edging of bright pink. A white beard tipped red completes this flower. The form and substance are excellent. Mighty Pretty is just that — a truly beautiful iris to enjoy owning and sure to please. .... \$25.00

GIFT OF SPRING (Christensen-Stump). Sdlg. OG9-4. TB, 36", M. Exotic and spectacular in its glacial orchid standards with antique white falls and striking tangerine beard. Excellent branching and bud count. .... \$25.00

*Order from this ad or send for free descriptive catalog for complete garden listing.*

## WALTER A. MOORES

4233 Village Creek Road

Fort Worth, TX 76119

### 1979 Introductions

DANTE'S INFERN. TB, 32", EM. Late Lilac X ((Gibson Girl x Winter Rose) x Lunar Fire). S. dark orange; F. very dark orange, edged full orange; burnt orange beard. *An occasional rebloomer* but not introduced for that purpose. Full form, ruffled and one of the brightest colors in the garden. A garden beacon. .... \$20.00

FACE POWDER. BB, 23", M & Re. Second Look X Summer Pink. Pale yellow (salmon pink) self; self beard. This is one of the most multi-budded border irises I have grown, blooming over a long period. Nice tailored form, but if you must have lace or ruffles, don't try this one. Even better in November. .... \$15.00

FLESHTONES. TB, 32", M. Claudia Rene x probably Candle Magic. S. pale yellow with narrow light yellow halo. F. pale yellow with light yellow hafts, blending solidly midway down, narrow pale yellow rim; orange beard. Color reads out in tones of flesh pink, which is especially deeper on the shoulders. Its fault is that occasionally it acts like Royal Egyptian. .... \$12.00

PINK SACHET. TB, 30", M. Tule Rainbow X (Summer Pink x Lunar Fire). Pink self with blue undertones; light red beard. Well branched and gently ruffled. Extremely vigorous for a pink. Choice. .... \$20.00

GRANDVILLE. '77 rebloomer pictured in *The World of Irises* following page 168. .... \$ 5.00

All of the above are vigorous and have been tested and proven in climates other than the home garden.

*Send stamp for complete listing, mainly reblooming irises*

I would like to buy a copy of the 1949 and 1969 iris checklists, hard back covers on each. Write information to:

**M. Nelson, 1926 Woodslea Drive, Flint, MI 48507.**

**PAQUET IRIS GARDENS' 1979 INTRODUCTION**

PINK PALACE—TB, 36", M. An Irish Lullaby improved in every way. Irish Lullaby X New Moon. .... \$25.00

**Nannie Paquet, Rt. 2, Box 180, McLeansville, NC 27301**

*Send stamp for list*

MISS KITTY (Herd '78). TB, 33", ML. Point Lace X Crinkled Gem. Closed S. yellow, white reverse. Ruffled, horizontal F. white with faint orchid flush, yellow border and reverse; yellow beard. Excellent branching, substance and bud count. Fast increase. .... \$20.00

**MRS. JESS HERD, 233 W. College, Jacksboro, Texas 76056.**

**1979 INTRODUCTIONS**

COPPER CLASSIC—TB, 34", ML. Standards are copper flushed pink; falls, ruffled, lightly laced, copper with bright tangerine beard. Good substance with gold dusting overall. Increases well with 5 to 7 buds per stalk. A standout in the garden since it first bloomed. Winner of the "Out of Region Trophy" as seedling #75-26 at the Region 14 Meeting in San Jose, 1977. Described in Melrose Garden as "toasted melon" by Mary Dunn. Sure to be a favorite according to advance orders. (West Coast X New Moon). HC 1977. .... \$25.00

ERLENE RICHESON—TB, 32", M. SdIg. #P7404. Ruffled peach-pink self. Three branches plus terminal with 7 to 9 buds. Good, dependable grower and bloomer. Named in honor of the new State President of the Missouri Federated Garden Clubs. HC 1978. (Pink Taffeta X Hayride). .... \$25.00

**RODERICK IRIS GARDENS**

1137 N. Main St.

Desloge, Missouri 633601

For 1979 — Two Intermediates from  
CAROL and GEORGE LANKOW

1301 Hillwind Road

Minneapolis, Minn. 55432

KERI—IB, 26". Sdlg. 7592-2. ((Pink TB x Sweet Refrain) x One Desire) X Lace Caper. Wide, ruffled, pretty, clear pink flowers with pink beards are presented on well-branched stalks. The well-proportioned plant is vigorous, and an added bonus is abundant fertility both ways. A good one in an era of good pink IBs. ....	\$12.50
COUNTRY DEEJAY—IB, 19". Sdlg. 7544-1. Lillipinkput X yellow BB: (pink TB x <i>I. aphylla</i> Geneva S2). The accent is on form and vigor. The wide, horizontally flaring flowers are rich maroon with the center of falls a brighter red. The conspicuous bushy beard is maroon tipped gold. The whole plant is in good proportion and has a lovely sweet scent. ....	\$12.50

Both are available from Riverdale Iris Gardens, 7124 Riverdale Road, Minneapolis, Minn. 55430.

*from Bennett Jones*

Insufficient stock prevents the introduction of selected talls this year. However, there is RAIN DANCE, the deep blue Standard Dwarf many of you saw during the Convention in San Jose last year.

RAIN DANCE—1978—Sdlg. M257-15: M213 (Gingerbread Man x Meadow Moss) X M220 (Pepita x (Blueberry Muffins x Gatty M595)). Beautiful color, a deep bluebird blue self, including the beards. Standards are domed; falls are wide, round and semi-flaring. Excellent proportion throughout. A healthy and rampant grower. An outstanding SDB, it is producing some exciting seedlings. 12". HC (40 votes) 1978. .... \$ 7.50

AND

PEACHY FACE—The peach-white IB, with a large, deep peach spot on the falls. HM 1976. Judges Choice 1978. 22". .... \$ 3.50

IRENE NELSON—Violet standards; falls fade to near white with violet rim. HM 1976, Judges Choice 1978. 34". .... \$12.50

LILAC SWAN—Lilac-blue standards; white falls; red beard. Very tall, well branched. 36". .... \$20.00

JEANNE PRICE—Large lemon-yellow, including beard; lightly ruffled. HM 1978. 34". .... \$15.00

SUNRISE POINT—Deep salmon standards; apricot falls, vibrant color. A sleeper. 36". .... \$15.00

TREVI FOUNTAIN—Apricot-white standards; falls are white, with fluted and crinkled borders of copper rust. Beautiful! 34" .... \$20.00

*No price list this year. Please order from this ad.  
Please include \$1.50 for packing materials and shipping.*

**BENNETT C. JONES**

5635 S. W. Boundary Street

Portland, Oregon 97221

## 1979 INTRODUCTIONS

**ANGEL'S GLORY**—R. Solomon. Sdlg. 59-3A2. TB, 32". Brilliant white; white beard tinged with yellow. Flaring falls, medium ruffles, multiple buds. Angeline: (Snow Flurry x Azure Skies) X Celestial Snow. .... \$25.00

**GOLD FLIGHT**—R. Solomon. Sdlg. 65-2E9. TB. Sunny gold, yellow beard. Flaring falls, medium ruffles, non-fading, multiple buds. Royal Gold sib X ((Utah Cream x (Apricot Supreme x Apricot Glory) x Top Flight)) x Rainbow Gold. .... \$25.00

## RAYMOND C. SOLOMON

1789 Hubbard Avenue

Salt Lake City, Utah 84108

## DAVID B. SINDT — IRISES

1331 West Cornelia

Chicago, Illinois 60657

### DWARF AND MEDIAN IRISES — OVER 400 VARIETIES

Introducing for 1979

ZIPPER (Sindt) MDB

ALSTERQUELLE (Denkowitz) SDB

FRECHDACHS (Denkowitz) SDB

ALMOND SPICE (Dunbar) MTB

See Winter bulletin for descriptions \$10.00 each plus \$1.50 postage and handling per order. Sales tax: Minnesota add 40¢; Illinois add 50¢ per \$10.00 order.

*Free Catalog in April on Request*

## "Schultz-Instant"® LIQUID PLANT FOOD

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Concentrated, High Analysis — All Purpose — 10-15-10 "Starts and Feeds" all Plants Indoors and Outdoors.

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## 1978 INTRODUCTIONS

Look for these two irises at Space City—Huntsville 1979

HIGH CONQUEST (Ed Roberts '78). Sdlg. R-27. TB, 38", M. (Kingdom X Carolina Gold). Rich deep yellow. White blaze on falls just below the wide, deep gold beard. Closed standards; wide, flaring falls. Heavy, well-branched stalk with good bud count. Good grower. RTGA 1977. ....	\$20.00
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## 1979 INTRODUCTIONS

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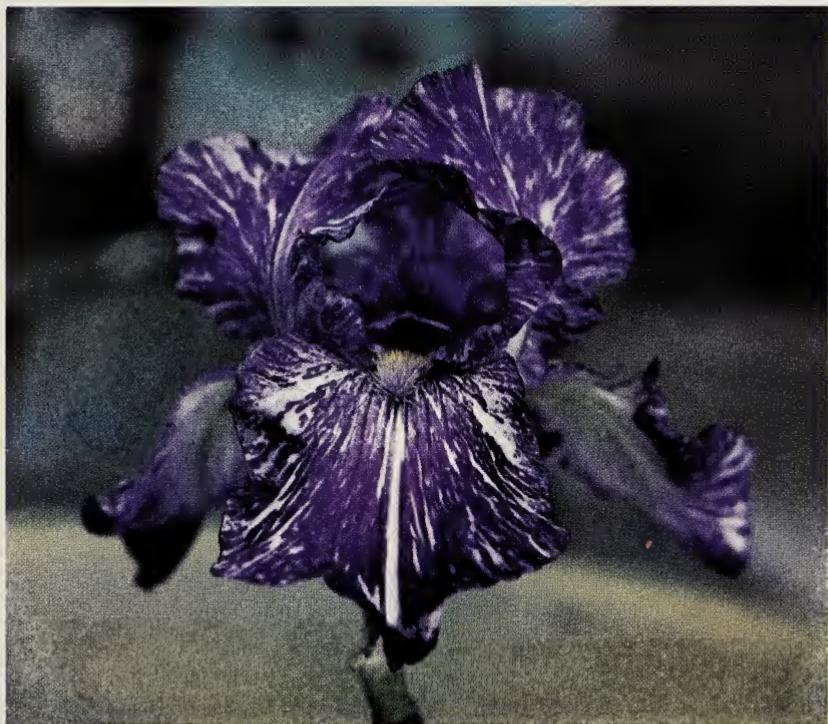
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